

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC (100-New)

DATE: 7/13/60

FROM :

SA [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

SUBJECT:

JOHN BUNCH SOCIETY OR GROUP
WHICH IS POSSIBLY IDENTICAL
WITH JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING - IS

At 3:30 PM 7/12/60, [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Matthews,
N.C., telephone VI 7-8933, who resides on [REDACTED] near [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Matthews, telephonically furnished the following
information to SA [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] purpose in calling was to ascertain if the FBI
could furnish him information as to whether an organization which he
believed was known as the "JOHN BUNCH Society or Group" was subversive.
In this regard he was advised to direct his inquiry to the Department of
Justice, Attention: Subversive Activities Control Section who in turn
would make a list of the subversive organizations available to him.

[REDACTED] stated that the John Bunch Society or Group was
supposedly a National organization whose purpose was fighting
Communism. Also this organization was supposed to be meeting in
Charlotte and had a library containing communist material including
the Daily Worker or the Worker. Further, they desired to have only
small groups of not over 15 persons per group and were interested in
getting ministers to join the organization. He said that he actually
knew very little about the organization and was not sure whether this
was the correct name but his information had been received from an
individual in [REDACTED] who was employed by Douglas Aircraft in Charlotte
and this individual was trying to get [REDACTED] to join the organization.
[REDACTED] went on to state that if the organization were legitimate he
would probably join it because he felt that the American public should
be made aware of the communist menace. On the other hand, if the
organization were subversive or infiltrated, he certainly wanted nothing
whatsoever to do with it. He stated that he might attend one or two
meetings in an effort to ascertain further information regarding the
organization.

Reference is made to SAC Let #5913, Section F and SAC Let #60-5
dated 1/26/60, Section C which contains information and Bureau
instructions regarding the "The JOHN BIRCH Society." It is noted in
the event a chapter of The John Birch Society is organized, the Bureau
is to be notified promptly and furnished a resume of the chapter's
activities and no investigation is to be conducted.

BDC:agp
(2)

100-9548-1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 13 1960	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

[REDACTED]

CE 100-New

It is recommended that this case be opened in this matter and that [] be interviewed at a later date with the purpose of determining whether the organization he referred to is identical with The John Birch Society and if so, secure from him any additional information he can afford regarding the organization.

7/21/60

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, Charlotte (100-9548)
~~JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY~~
~~SEMINATION CONFERENCE -~~
~~INTERNAL SECURITY~~

Re SAC Letter 60-5 dated 2/23/60, Section 6, which contains information and Bureau instructions re captioned organization.

On 7/21/60, [redacted]

of [redacted] telephonically contacted the Charlotte Office, at which time he advised that his purpose in calling at the office was to ascertain if captioned organization was subversive. He went on to state that on the night of 7/20/60, he had attended a meeting of the JOHN BIRCH Society which was held in downtown Charlotte Public Library, and attended by approximately 12 persons. One JOHN [redacted] of [redacted] near Sevierville, Tenn., was the main speaker.

[redacted] advised that [redacted] stated that the purpose of the Society was to fight Communism and during the meeting [redacted] advised that they had chapters of the Society in 30 states and that they desired to obtain one million members. [redacted] stated that [redacted] did not indicate that there were other chapters of the Society in North Carolina. He further stated that [redacted] criticized the Supreme Court and also government officials in Washington, D. C.

For the additional information of the Bureau, on 7/22/60

[redacted] telephonically contacted the Bureau to ascertain if the FBI could furnish him any information as to whether a group or society known as the "JOHN BIRCH Society or Group" was subversive. At that time [redacted] advised that the JOHN BIRCH Society was supposedly a national organization whose purpose

3 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Knoxville (RM)
2 - Charlotte
BDR:js
(7)

al

[redacted]

BDR

100-9548-2

CH 100-9918

was fighting Communism.

Both [redacted] were requested to direct their inquiries to the Department of Justice, Attention: Subversive Organization Section, Internal Security Division, Washington, D. C., for any information regarding organizations which had been declared subversive by the Attorney General.

[redacted] indicated he would attend some meetings of the organization and would contact an agent at which time he would be in a position to furnish additional information re the organization.

No investigation is being conducted other than contact with [redacted]

Director, FBI

7/27/60

SAC, Charlotte (100-9548)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING - INTERNAL SECURITY

Re Charlotte airtel 7/21/60.

On 7/27/60, [redacted] Matthews, N. C., advised SA [redacted] that he had not attended any meetings of the organization which he had previously called the Charlotte Office about but had learned that the group was meeting in the public library in downtown Charlotte. [redacted] stated that he intended to attend some of the meetings and that if he observed anything of a suspicious nature or received any literature of a questionable nature about the organization, he would contact the Charlotte Office.

Since the organization [redacted] referred to is apparently identical with John Birch Society which is meeting in the public library in Charlotte, no further action is being taken in this matter by the Charlotte Office but any pertinent information received will be forwarded to the Bureau.

- 6 -

2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - Charlotte (100-9548)

BDG:bc
(4)

✓
CJ

100-9548-3

TRUE COPY

[REDACTED]
Greensboro, North Carolina
Incorporated in 1927

[REDACTED]
July 25, 1960

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing you in regards to the John Burch Foundation, hoping you can give me some information as to the Government's opinion of these societies and as to whether they are recommended to the American people.

I heard one of their directors, Dr. Douglas Heinsohn of Gatlinburg, Tennessee, who spoke to our local chapter of the Junior Chamber of Commerce this past week. Perhaps I am of a suspicious nature, but to me he did not advocate things that are good for a democracy.

I am not criticising any one or any organization but only wish to obtain all the information about this organization so that I may form some concrete opinion. Neither am I writing as an official representative of the Junior Chamber of Commerce but only as an American citizen.

Hoping that you can give me this desired information,
I remain

Sincerely yours,

/s/ [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Forest City, North Carolina

WAB:sbc

TRUE COPY

100-9548-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 4 1960	
FBI - OTT	

[REDACTED]

Date 8-3-60

TO SAC:

(Copies to Offices Checked)

☐ Albany
☐ Albuquerque
☐ Anchorage
☐ Atlanta
☐ Baltimore
☐ Birmingham
☐ Boston
☐ Buffalo
☐ Butte
☒ Charlotte
☐ Chicago
☐ Cincinnati
☐ Cleveland
☐ Dallas
☐ Denver
☐ Detroit
☐ El Paso

☐ Honolulu
☐ Houston
☐ Indianapolis
☐ Jacksonville
☐ Kansas City
☐ Knoxville
☐ Little Rock
☐ Los Angeles
☐ Louisville
☐ Memphis
☐ Miami
☐ Milwaukee
☐ Minneapolis
☐ Mobile
☐ Newark
☐ New Haven

☐ New Orleans
☐ New York City
☐ Norfolk
☐ Oklahoma City
☐ Omaha
☐ Philadelphia
☐ Phoenix
☐ Pittsburgh
☐ Portland
☐ Richmond
☐ St. Louis
☐ Salt Lake City
☐ San Antonio
☐ San Diego
☐ San Francisco
☐ San Juan

☐ Savannah
☐ Seattle
☐ Springfield
☐ Tampa
☐ Washington Field
☐ Quantico

TO LEGAT:

☐ Bonn
☐ Havana
☐ London
☐ Madrid
☐ Mexico D. F.
☐ Ottawa
☐ Paris
☐ Rome
☐ Rio de Janeiro
☐ Tokyo

RE:

☒ For information ☐ For appropriate action ☐ Surep, by _____

☐ The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, ☐ conceal all sources, ☐ paraphrase contents.

☐ Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____.

REMARKS:

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 4 1960	
FBI — CHARLOTTE	

[Handwritten signature]

Enclosure(s) - 2

Bufile

Urfile

August 3, 1960

[redacted]
Forest City, North Carolina

Dear [redacted]

Your letter dated July 25, 1960, has been received and the interest which prompted your communication is indeed appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I must advise that the jurisdiction and responsibilities of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not issue clearances or nonclearances.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this policy and will not infer that we do or do not have in our files the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

① - Charlotte (Enclosure) SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

1 - Knoxville (Enclosure) SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

100-917A-5
SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
AUG 4 1960

[REDACTED]

ATTENTION: SACs, CHARLOTTE, AND KNOXVILLE:

Enclosed is a copy of correspondent's communication. Bufiles contain no identifiable data concerning correspondent.

Bufiles reveal that [REDACTED] is the [REDACTED] for the John Birch Society in Tennessee. Bufiles contain no identifiable derogatory data concerning [REDACTED]

The John Birch Society and its founder, Robert Welch, have not been the subjects of an investigation by the Bureau. Welch and his organization have been very critical of President Eisenhower and his administration. Information concerning this individual and his organization is contained in SAC Letter 60-5.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

DATE: 10/7/60

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
IS-X

On 10/4/60, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Charlotte, N. C., appeared at Charlotte Office. He stated that he and [REDACTED] are members of the local Chapter of captioned organization in Charlotte, and that the primary purpose of this organization is to fight Communism.

[REDACTED] inquired whether this office has any information indicating the John Birch Society has any subversive connections. He was advised that the files of the FBI are maintained confidential by Departmental Order and that the FBI cannot furnish evaluations as to the character of any organization.

GHC:mw
(2)*mw*

100-9548-6

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED <i>pl</i>	FILED <i>pl</i>
OCT 7 1960	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

Date 6-21-66

b6
b7C

To:

☐ Director

FILE _____

Att.:

☒ SAC Charlotte

Title _____

☐ ASAC _____

☐ Supv. _____

☐ Agent _____

☐ SE _____

☐ IC _____

☐ CC _____

☐ Steno _____

☐ Clerk _____

17
Charlotte, N. C.
Favorable Comments of the
FBI

7-105-368-42014
105-495-739
100-9548-6

Re: _____

ACTION DESIRED

☐ Acknowledge

☐ Assign _____ Reassign _____

☐ Bring file

☐ Call me

☐ Correct

☐ Deadline _____

☐ Deadline passed

☐ Delinquent

☐ Discontinue

☐ Expedite

☐ File

☒ For information

☐ Handle

☐ Initial & return

☐ Leads need attention

☐ Return with explanation or notation as to action taken.

☐ Open Case

☐ Prepare lead cards

☐ Prepare tickler

☐ Recharge serials

☐ Return assignment card

☐ Return file

☐ Return serials

☐ Search and return

☐ See me

☐ Send Serials _____

to _____

☐ Submit new charge out

☐ Submit report by _____

☐ Type

SAC _____

Office _____

Drum
Jackson

See reverse side

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Socialist Crowd Now After Hoover

Editor, Daily News — Now that our nation's liberals are relaxing beneath the unfortunate truth that the Supreme Court of the United States no longer gives the American people an honest interpretation of the Constitution of the United States, these leftists have decided to train their socialistic guns on Mr. J. Edgar Hoover.

The anti-Constitutionalists are now in control of the White House, the Vice-Presidency, the Supreme Court, and a section of Congress. Apparently, far from being satisfied with these major victories, the left wing is now calling for the ouster of Mr. Hoover "and for an investigation of the role of the F. B. I. in American government and American life." Every loyal American can easily understand and support every effort to destroy the Communist menace in the United States, but when a group within our borders calls

for an investigation of the F. B. I. then the subversive stench that permeates the nostrils of our nation today has reached the ultimate of corruption.

Mr. Hoover and the F. B. I. do not want to destroy America. They want to strengthen and preserve it. The Communists do not want to strengthen and preserve America. They want to turn it over to the most foul and atheistic teaching that is in the world today. The apathetic people in our nation better wake up and join hands with those who are trying to defeat the ever encroaching Red menace in this nation.

This is no time for any individual or group to sit apathetically on the sidelines just watching. It is past time that all Americans ignore such communist inspired phrases as "radical right", "extreme right" and "far rightists" and with the ignoring join hands with those who are trying to defeat the Reds. The so-called "extreme right" or "radical right" are not trying to turn this nation over to a foreign dictatorship! But the Communists are!

But who gets the brunt of attacks from the liberals and the liberal press today? Not the Communists! Not those who are trying to foment civil strife within the borders of our nation! Not those who have left our shores to foment civil strife in Africa! Not those in our governmental high places who should be bending every effort to stop potential civil strife in the United States, but won't! But who is it that faces the onslaught of the liberals here at home? It is the group of American patriots who have the for-

titude and backbone to stand up and speak out against the danger of atheistic Communism!

Instead of sitting idly by and doing nothing about the proposed superlatively hypocritical investigation of Mr. Hoover and the F. B. I., its high time that every real American shows his true colors and puts himself on record as being in opposition to the further destruction of law and order in this country. It is time that the average American was getting a few rights in his own country.

Albert Boyle, Jr.
2025 Dartmouth Place
Charlotte, N. C. 28207

Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

PAGE SEVENTEEN

JACKSON DAILY NEWS

JACKSON, MISS.

Date: 6/16

Edition: HOME

Author:

Editor: JAMES M. WARD

Title: FAVORABLE COMMENTS
ON FBI

Character:

or

Classification: 80-321

Submitting Office: JACKSON

☐ Being Investigated

100-9548-6A

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 27 1966	
FBI-CHARLOTTE	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*Memorandum*b6
b7c

TO : SAC (100-9548)

DATE: 11/15/60

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
IS - X

On 10/20/60 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Charlotte, N. C., telephonically advised that she had attended a meeting of the Charlotte Chapter of the John Birch Society held in the Charlotte Public Library on 10/18/60. She stated that the organization is supposed to have as its purpose the fighting of Communism. She said she noted, however, that the members seemed to be a bunch of rebel rousers, and were critical of the programs of the Eisenhower Administration. She stated that the leader of this group in Charlotte is [REDACTED] who is in the [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] in Charlotte.

[REDACTED] inquired as to whether this office has information indicating this organization has any subversive connections. She stated she is not a member but that she would like to know this before joining any organization.

She was advised that the jurisdiction and responsibility of the FBI do not extend to evaluating the character or integrity of any organization.

GHC:jnb

(2) *jnb*

100-9548

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
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NOV 17 1960	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (105-0)

DATE: 2/8/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
BELMONT 78, MASS.
IS -*Scout*

On 2/1/61, [REDACTED] Greenwood, S. C., telephonically contacted the Raleigh RA and advised he is a [REDACTED] for [REDACTED] and as such was in Charlotte, N. C., on 1/30/61. While there he was invited to attend a meeting of the captioned society held at the new library in Charlotte.

The invitation came from [REDACTED] who is connected with the [REDACTED] in Charlotte, N. C. Although [REDACTED] is not a member of the society, in inviting him, [REDACTED] told him that he understood from a member, not named, of the society that the society was approved by the FBI.

[REDACTED] advised [REDACTED] that he doubted this as he never knew the FBI to approve or disapprove of any association or society.

He added, however, that he went to the meeting and it was run by a man, name not known, who was a regional manager for the society.

He learned from this meeting that the purpose of the society is supposed to be fighting Communism and Socialism. The society accomplishes this by telling the members to write to influential people, such as newspaper editors and Congressmen, letters concerning certain events of the day. The society does not tell the members who to write to but does tell them what to write about and what to say.

[REDACTED] added that the society is made up of cells, 20 members to a cell, and that new cells are formed by members opening up reading rooms stocked with literature by the society.

He further advised that members pay \$2.00 a month dues and that the society is supposed to have a membership of one-half million.

JMB:mjh

(2) *mjh**CCO Scout
we have file*

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100-9548-8
100-9548-8

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FEB 7 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

*Info.**ERJ*

CE 105-0

He further advised that he feels the society rather than fighting Communism is really some type of Communistic front and that is why he is reporting it to the FBI.

He added further, however, even though he suspects it is a Communist front he intends to join a cell in Greenwood, S. C., just to determine if his suspicions are correct.

Director, FBI

2/8/61

SAC, Charlotte (100-9548)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
INTERNAL SECURITY

Re Charlotte airtels 7/21 and 27/60.

On 2/1/61, [redacted] Charlotte, N. C., telephone KEYSSTONE 7-1903, personally appeared at the Charlotte Office at which time she advised SA [redacted] that her purpose was to ascertain whether captioned organization was a legitimate and non-subversive organization. She was advised the FBI's jurisdiction and responsibilities did not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of an organization or individual.

She pointed out that she had attended several meetings of the John Birch Society which were being held in a room at the downtown public library, Charlotte, and had attended the last meeting on 1/30/61. She said that she was not aware of the identity of the persons who were in charge of the local organization but that they claimed to be an anti-Communist group. At the meetings they referred a great deal to the "Dan Snot Report" who was reportedly a former FBI Agent (SAC Letter 59-17 dated 3/24/59, contains information regarding Dan Snot Report). Also at the meeting on 1/30/61, which was attended by approximately 30 persons, there was a debate and discussion concerning dividing the group into smaller units and the formation of other small groups or units. Several individuals raised their hand indicating they would attempt to organize a small group or cell.

[redacted] advised she was concerned about the complacency of the American public regarding the communist menace and that she desired to participate fully in captioned organization to fight Communism, provided the organization was actually an anti-Communist organization. She pointed out she had no reason to doubt this but wanted to make sure that it was non-subversive before joining and participating in the activities.

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2 - Bureau (Encls-4) (RM)

1 - Charlotte (100-9548)

(4)

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CE 100-9548

[redacted] made available the following literature which she had obtained at these meetings, which is being furnished the Bureau for information and it can be destroyed after it has served its purpose. Charlotte is retaining no copy of this literature.

- (1) May 1960 issue of "American Opinion" concerning "The Bank - Jewish Tragedy", which is apparently published by ROBERT H. W. WELCH, JR., founder of the John Birch Society.
- (2) Testimony of DR. FREDERICK CHARLES SCHWARZ, Executive Director, Christian Anti-Communist Crusade before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on 5/23/57.
- (3) Booklet entitled "Why People Deserve Communists" published by "American Opinion"
- (4) Application for membership in the John Birch Society listing the membership dues.

[redacted] advised that she and [redacted] at that time planned to join this organization and that if any information was received indicating that the organization was subversive, she would thereafter contact the Charlotte Office.

For the additional information of the Bureau, since the submission of referenced Charlotte airtel, two other individuals have contacted the Charlotte Office regarding captioned organization and have indicated they have attended meetings at the Charlotte Public Library. They likewise desired to know whether there was any information indicating that the organization had any subversive contacts.

Charlotte, N. C.
Agents Memo No. 32
Series 1961

MEMO ALL AGENTS:

Re: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
INTERNAL SECURITY

Numerous inquiries have recently been received concerning the John Birch Society and its founder, ROBERT H. WELCH, JR., possibly because WELCH and his organization have been very critical of former President EISENHOWER and his administration. The John Birch Society and its founder, ROBERT WELCH have not been the subjects of an investigation by the Bureau.

A chapter of the society has been organized and is active at Charlotte, N. C., and apparently organizing efforts are being made in other areas of North and South Carolina.

SAC letter number 59-13 dated 3/10/59 advised that "information has been received that WELCH resides at 43 Fletcher Road, Belmont, Massachusetts; maintains an office at 810 Main Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts; is an officer and director of the James O. Welch Company, candy manufacturers, 810 Main Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts; and is editor and a director of the publication "American Opinion," which he irregularly publishes and issues of which have in the past contained anti-communist articles. Neither WELCH nor his publication has been the subject of Bureau investigation. In January, 1959, he met with a group of leading industrialists of the Milwaukee, Wisconsin, area, at which time he lectured on communism the urgent need for anticommunist action in the United States and his desires to establish ostensible communist front groups which in reality would be anticommunist groups. Welch indicated he is conducting a drive to obtain funds to be used for anticommunist activity and that his plans would necessitate large financial contributions.

100-9458
BDC:rak
(1 - 66-138)
2/13/61

100-9548-10

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FEB 14 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

CE 100-9548

Portions of SAC letter number 6025, dated 1/26/60, advised that "WELCH has written a manuscript entitled 'The Politician,' which is a vicious attack on the political life and beliefs of President Eisenhower. WELCH has not published the manuscript but has had a limited number of copies printed which he has distributed or 'loaned' to friends or individuals who he believed would be interested in its contents. The Bureau is in possession of a copy of it. Therefore, if the manuscript is offered to you for reproduction purposes, it will not be necessary to send copies to the Bureau.

"WELCH also created an organization in Indianapolis, Indiana, in December, 1958, called 'The John Birch Society,' the long-range objective of which has been summarized as 'less government, more responsibility, and a better world.' Chapters of this Society are coming into existence in various parts of the country. The Bureau has received several inquiries concerning the Society and is in possession of a copy of 'The Blue Book,' which sets forth information on the Society.

"The above is furnished for information purposes. In the event a chapter of The John Birch Society is organized in your territory, the Bureau should be notified promptly and furnished a resume of the chapter's activities. The Bureau is particularly interested in any efforts by subversive elements to take over or use this Society or its chapters. No investigation should be conducted."

In the event any inquiries are received as to whether the John Birch Society is subversive or has the Society and WELCH been cleared by the FBI, you should advise person making the inquiry that the jurisdiction and responsibility of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. The FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and as such does not issue clearances or non-clearances.

[redacted]
Marion, N. C.

February 2, 1961

[redacted]
Charlotte, North Carolina

Dear Sir,

I presume that you are the author of the letter which appeared in the Open Forum section of the Charlotte Observer today. Vocal resistance of this nature cannot help but be noted by the politicians and also encouragement to those who believe as you and I but are unable to express that belief.

It is also my assumption that you belong to one, or another, of the patriotic societies that seem to abound in this country. In any event I certainly want to commend to you the "Joseph Birch Society" a chapter of which exists in Charlotte. Although the Society does not purport to be so, I am of the opinion that it a particularly appropriate organization for a person of your professional standing.

[redacted] of the [redacted] can brief you on the details of this organization. Perhaps you are already a member - your letter this morning would indicate such. I would suggest that you get in touch with him for further details.

I, personally, am not a member of this society although I am attempting to assist [redacted] in organizing one in Marion. I believe that all five of the social status groups that we have in this country should be informed as to the precarious position this country is in - that they will not receive that information in the national news media. Since we are governed by the lower levels of that status group I am working toward the end that those in this county will be informed.

The political arm for all these societies is in the process of being organized in forty five states. It is a "Conservative Party" movement. The state chairman for this movement in North Carolina is [redacted] [redacted] High Point, N. C. He is an ex-Democrat, as am I.

The national publicity medium for this party is the "Independent American", which has a newspaper edition and a weekly radio edition. This a venture which was started about six years ago for the purpose of creating a conservative climate in this country. The newspaper has a national circulation 1964 the radio edition is being broadcast in twenty states.

Whether you are interested in our party, or not, I would recommend your subscribing to this paper. It is published on a monthly basis with a subscription rate of \$3.00 per year. In addition to its own editorial comments, it compiles conservative editorials from news papers all over the country therefore giving the reader the benefit of national conservative opinion. (Something that you will not find in either the Charlotte Observer or the Charlotte News-both of which are owned by the same publisher who poses as a Republican).

I would also suggest that you subscribe to "The American Mercury" the publi-

cation of which was taken over by "Defenders of Christian Faith, Inc" as of January 1st - this year. The "Mercury" is, and has been, dedicated to fighting communism in the United States and the "Defenders" have also been doing that since 1925.

I very much doubt that you will find a copy of the "Mercury" on a Charlotte newsstand. You can, however, obtain a subscription from the American Book Agency, P. O. Box 4962, Charleston Heights, S. C. It is possible that they may send you a single copy if you request it. The yearly subscription rate is \$4.00 - single copy price: .35¢. I became acquainted with this magazine through the recommendation of Mr. Thomas R. Waring, Editor of the Charleston News & Courier after they had printed an open forum letter which I wrote in the recent election. I hope that you will be as grateful to me as I am to him for this recommendation.

Whether you are aware of it, sir, we are right now engaged in World War III. It is an intellectual, psychological war with the ultimate aim being that of bringing the people of this country into a One World Government by the manipulation of their minds. You prefaced your letter this morning, viz: "You seem to be preparing your readers for an acceptance of Red China's entry into the U. N." This ~~was~~ has been long in planning and long in execution. We have not reached the peak yet. If the enemy as such succeed in this - we will go into another quasi "Dark Ages" for a long time (I would hazard a guess: For about a thousand years) at least long enough that the archeologists of a later "Renaissance" period would have to do as much speculating about our culture as our present ones do about the civilizations that preceded us. Let us not forget that civilizations have risen-and fallen.

The enemy as such are highly organized, have access to unlimited sums of money, and control some of the best brain power in the world. Now - I am not referring to the Moscovites; they are just a pawn, a "Bugaboo" to confuse the ordinary man and to cast a shroud over the real purpose of all this psychological manipulation.

Any war is a war of attrition in one form or another. You wear your opponent down to the point where he will accept defeat. What has made this country impregnable, heretofore, has been its collective prosperity based upon the individual prosperity of its inhabitants. The effect is now being shown in our country's gold reserves (Do you remember when the law was passed that an individual could not own gold?) and also in the unwillingness of ordinary men to go into small private enterprises (thanks to the tax situation). All this has come about by planning - not by chance. It has not been through the will of God (although the latter archeologists will establish that we worshipped) some form of a god).

We feel that the plans of these jokers can be licked because we do believe in God. That's why all across this country people like Mr. Whitener and myself are literally groping for minds to help us in this cause - for people who believe in the same things that we do - people who shudder at the thought of their families having a "Big Brother" watching over them.

If we are going to succeed in this - we are going to have to have men of intellectual ability working together. In the chaff of the brainstorm we will have - there will be "germs" of wheat that will show fruition.

That's where you can help [] -and by helping him you will help us others in this cause. You have indicated by this letter that you have the ability to marshal your thoughts. We need the benefit of those thoughts. [] could appreciate your sending them to him.

(I have just done over what I have written so far - and - although the thought is there, I have not expressed it as well as I can. But I am being pressed for time in the writing of this so I ask your pardon for the errors of omission.)

You see, sir. I am not putting the "bite" on you for money (which makes us seem like a rather peculiar political organization). What we are asking you to give instead of that is what you have "upstairs" instead of the pocketbook. Of course, we can't pay you for what you contribute in the form of recommendations. Your patients, of course, do pay you for your acquired knowledge and application in Dentistry.

But - you say: "I know nothing of Politics!"... Sir.... neither [redacted] nor myself are --- Politicians. He is President of [redacted] in High Point... and I am the assistant superintendent of [redacted] in [redacted] (who by all logical reason should stay out of politics since our biggest customer-the State Highway-is controlled by an autocratic party machine calling themselves the Democratic Party) In other words; when this party achieves political prominence (as we feel it will) he can't sell much furniture glue to the State and it will have little, if any, effect on the business position of my firm with the State, competition being what it is.

All my life I have been an avid reader. For the last fifteen of my forty years I have confined my reading to serious books for the most consisting of the speculative and contemplative philosophers plus books on analytical, bio, and para, psychology. I'll have to confess that one of my favorite philosophers is Socrates.

"Man Is a political animal" whether he acknowledges it or not. We all have political instincts of what is right, or what is wrong insofar as it pertains to the governing of ourselves. It is very rare indeed when you will find one man who will be a compendium of all the right instincts for right government. That is why it is better to be governed by a group of people for people instead of "one for all". That's why we have a "Council of Fifteen" in the State Conservative Party.

I also believe in intuition. I know that there are those who say that this is something that comes welling up from the sub-conscious; that there are others who say that it is something in the genes passed on from our forebears. I believe that it is something that comes from beyond our ken. Most of these jokers are really at loss to explain - "Inspiration."

I have found something to be of help to me - perhaps you can put it to use. Inspiration as such does not seem to happen to a person at any particular time although it does seem to happen more at night than during the day. Whenever I become possessed with a certain thought I make it a point to record that impression in a notebook - no matter what I am doing. These thoughts are so fleeting that unless I do so - I generally lose them unless it is one that has some particular strength to it.

If you have read this far, I appreciate your giving me your attention. I hope that I have not bored you, and if I have - my apologies.

If you feel that you can help in the manner in which I have suggested (as I feel that you can) I am sure that [redacted] would be glad to hear from you and any suggestions that you might offer from time to time. The decision, of course, is entirely up to you.

I would like to leave this parting thought with you. If you agree that this country is in trouble I hope that you will remember that you were asked

to help alleviate the situation. In we win is this cause for our country and you helped then it may be just because you contributed. If you contribute in the manner in which I asked and we lose you should still experience a certain sense of gratification in that you, at least, "did something". Suppose, though, that we lose and you did not help? Do you think that you might have a little nagging feeling that if you had helped the course of the cause might have gone the other way? You see, we do not minimize the importance of one individual.

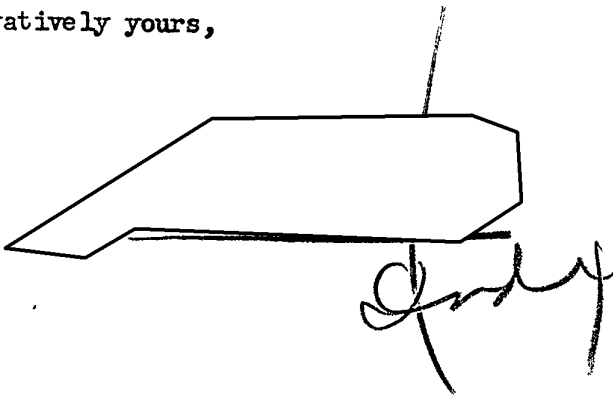
And - if I did not think that you could be of help to us. I would not have taken the time to write you this lengthy letter.

Since this letter was unsolicited from me, it is not necessary that you send a "courtesy" reply. I would appreciate any thoughts which you might have on the matters that I have discussed but I am sure that [redacted] could put them to better use than I.

I am apprising him of the fact that I have written to you, and am sending him a copy of your letter. He will, therefore, not be surprised to hear from you. To put it quite frankly - he will be delighted.

Whatever decision you make - the best of luck to you in whatever venture you undertake.

Conservatively yours,

A handwritten signature, possibly "Andy", is written in cursive below a large, stylized, angular mark that resembles a large, slanted rectangle or a stylized letter 'A'.

[REDACTED]
CHARLOTTE 5, N. C.

February 8, 1961

Special Agent
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Johnston Building
Charlotte, North Carolina

Dear Sir:

There are two enclosures with this letter. One is a clipping of a letter that I wrote to the Charlotte Observer, printed Thursday, February 2, 1961. The other is a letter that I received as a result of that "Open Forum" letter.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would let me know whether any of the people, publications, or organizations mentioned in the letter are among those listed as communist or communist front.

It seems a shame to have to admit that "patriotic sounding" names of organizations and publications stir a suspicion in me that they may, in fact, be the opposite.

If you have a list or pamphlet of known communist or "front" organizations I would appreciate your sending it to me.

Also, please return the letter from [REDACTED]

Sincerely yours for a secure republic,
[REDACTED]
only

JEM/pn

Enclosures: 2

100-9548-12

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 10 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

1700 Johnston Building
Charlotte 2, North Carolina
February 13, 1961

[redacted]
Charlotte 5, North Carolina

Dear [redacted]

I am in receipt of your letter of February 8, 1961, and while I would like to be of assistance in connection with this inquiry, I must advise that in accordance with regulations, data contained in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation is maintained as confidential and available for official use only.

I am sure you will understand the necessity for this regulation and that no inference will be drawn because of my inability to be of assistance that we do or do not have the information you have requested.

I wish to advise that a list of organizations which have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as subversive may be obtained by you by writing the Department of Justice in Washington, D. C., requesting such list. Your letter should be directed to the attention of Subversive Organizations Section, Internal Security Division.

In accordance with your request, letter from Mr. Stanley to you dated February 2, 1961, is enclosed along with the newspaper clipping.

Very truly yours,

DL
Donald E. Roney
Special Agent in Charge

Enclosures 2

1 - Addressee
1 - Charlotte (100-JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY)
RLK:mw
(2)
mw

SEARCHED _____
SERIALIZED *DL*
INDEXED _____
FILED *DL*

100-9548-13

DIRECTOR, FBI

3/7/61

SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9458)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING - INTERNAL SECURITY

On 2/21/61, [redacted] contacted the Greensboro, N. C. Resident Agency.

[redacted] advised that he was extremely interested in anti-Communist activities and that he had recently heard of the John Birch Society and understood that their purpose was to fight Communism in the U. S. However, he advised that prior to joining any such society he desired to ascertain if this organization was in any way subversive.

He stated he had written to the headquarters of the John Birch Society at Belmont, Mass., and received some publications from this organization. He stated that in these publications it listed some of the council members, among which that were well known was Mr. T. COLEMAN ANDREWS, former Director of Internal Revenue Service, and ADOLPH MENJOU, movie actor. These publications further indicated to him that this organization was organized at Indianapolis, Ind. in 1958, and that one Mr. ROBERT WELCH was the founder of this society.

He stated that if he could ascertain that this organization was not subversive and was actually dedicated to fighting Communism in the United States as reflected in its publications he would be interested in such a society at Salem, Va., where he resides.

[redacted] was advised that the jurisdiction and responsibility of the FBI do not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication or organization. He was advised the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal government and as such does not issue clearances or non-clearances.

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - Richmond (Info.) (RM)
- ① - Charlotte (100-9458)

HCM:jnr

(4)

SEARCHED

SERIALIZED

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FILED

100-9548-14

CE 100-9458

[redacted] is described as:

White

Male

Born [redacted]

Height 5' 9"

Weight 145 pounds

Employment - [redacted]

Military service - U. S. Navy, claims honorable discharge

Residence - [redacted]

The above is being furnished for the information of the Bureau and Richmond in the event that a John Birch Society is organized at Salem, Virginia, and the above individual is a member or assists in organizing the John Birch Society in the city where he resides.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-0*

DATE: 3/9/61

FROM : SA JOHN W. WORSHAM

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
INFORMATION/CONCERNING
FIGHT AGAINST COMMUNIST

On March 9, 1961, [REDACTED]
Sales Representative for [REDACTED] New Bern,
North Carolina, residence [REDACTED] New Bern,
contacted the writer and advised the following information:

[REDACTED] stated approximately three weeks ago a
Sales Representative for [REDACTED] attended a
meeting of Sales Representatives held in New Bern, North
Carolina. He stated this individual is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and at this time he asked him, [REDACTED] if
he would be interested in joining an organization which
was organized by a group of Doctors throughout the United
States whos purpose is to defeat communism. He stated at
this time [REDACTED] stated that this is a measure to help the
FBI in their fight against the communist throughout the
country.

[REDACTED] stated at this time he told [REDACTED] that he
knew the FBI agent in New Bern, North Carolina, and would
contact him about the organization. He stated that [REDACTED]
did not tell him the name of the organization and requested
him not to contact the FBI. He stated that he thought it
strange that [REDACTED] did not want him to ask the FBI about
this organization and since he had told [REDACTED] that he would
not contact the FBI he had not.

[REDACTED] stated approximately a week ago [REDACTED] was
again in New Bern, North Carolina, and came by his home
and attempted to get him to join the organization, telling
him that he would get him some literature to read, and if he
decided to join the organization, he, [REDACTED] would tell him
the name of the organization. [REDACTED] stated that he told [REDACTED]
to bring him the literature to read which he has not
received todate, and he would read it.

JWW

100-9548-15

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAR 11 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

[Handwritten signature]

[] stated that [] is "heated up" about this organization and on his last contact [] asked him if he had contacted the FBI and he advised him that he had not. He stated [] stated good, I am glad you did not contact them.

[] stated that all he could get out of [] is that this organization is headed by a group of doctors and business men and the prime purpose was to do away with the communist according to []

[] stated that he and his wife had discussed this matter, and had decided that they should bring this to the attention of the FBI for the following reasons:

1. That if this organization was organized for the purpose of helping the FBI do away with the communist, why should [] object to his contacting the FBI about the organization.
2. That he has read a lot and from what he reads he has ascertained that this is the way a communist or fascist front organization starts.
3. He is wondering if this organization states that they are fighting communism and are actually promoting it.

[] stated that he does not care to join the organization, but he told [] to get him the literature and he will make it available to the FBI when he receives it.

It is believed that the organization which is referred to by [] is the John Birch Society.

No action will be taken in this matter unless advised to do so by the Charlotte Office.



THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Brodie S. Griffith Editor and General Manager

Perry E. Morgan Associate Editor

R. L. Young Jr. Managing Editor

Are The John Birchers Subversive?

At what point does a patriotic organization become subversive?

That question is far from paradoxical in connection with the John Birch Society, a tight-knit anti-Communist cult whose founder and director is a farm boy and UNC graduate from North Carolina named Robert Welch.

Mr. Welch's John Birch Society has "cells" in 35 states, each cell consisting according to a Time Magazine report of 20 to 30 members. Its activity is semi-secret and is based on what appears as a violently extreme estimate of the nature of the internal Communist threat. Mr. Welch regards the U.S. as 40 to 60 per cent "Communist-controlled" and has an exceedingly low estimate of the patriotism of several Americans whom most others regard as unimpeachable patriots. In his book, "The Politician," Mr. Welch has, Time writes, delivered the following estimates:

"... Milton Eisenhower is actually Dwight Eisenhower's superior and boss within the Communist Party. For (Ike) there is only one possible word to describe his purposes and his actions. That word is treason."

CIA Director Allen Dulles is "the most protected and untouchable supporter of Communism, next to Eisenhower himself, in Washington." His brother, the late secretary of state, was "a Communist agent."

Of course, the country has no end of persons and organizations who style it their mission to search for "subversion." Most of them unfortunately suffer from a

too-rigid notion of what it is and seek it only in certain predictable quarters. The John Birch Society, with its fantastic libels of a former President and secretary of state, is exactly the sort of group that tends to be excused when it undermines government because its motives are flagrantly "patriotic." It should not be excused. If the American public ever accepts the notion that its Eisenhowers and Dulleses are Communist dupes or agents in whom is it to trust?

CHARLOTTE NEWS
Charlotte, N. C.
3-14-61

100-9548-16

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 15 1961	
FBI - CHA	

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

b6
b7C

TO : SAC (100-9548)

DATE: 3/15/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
SECURITY MATTER C

gnd
[REDACTED] Charlotte, telephone KE 7-0654, telephonically advised that [REDACTED] had attended a meeting at a private home and had obtained some pamphlets published by America's Future, Inc., New Rochelle, N. Y., two of these being, "What's Happened to Our Schools," and "Nine Men Against America." She stated the author was ROSA LEE GORDON. She further stated some material bearing letters from J. EDGAR HOOVER concerning communism were passed out at the meeting.

[REDACTED] desired to obtain information concerning the pamphlets and the author.

[REDACTED] who was also home advised that the meeting was one of the John Birch Society.

[REDACTED] were advised that due to the confidential nature of the FBI's files, no information could be made available concerning persons or organizations.

[REDACTED] advised that he would bring the pamphlets to the Charlotte FBI Office and make them available for any value they may be.

CLW/cjs
(2)

100-9548-17

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
MAR 15 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

[REDACTED] *RAF*

DIRECTOR, FBI

3/27/61

SAC, CHARLOTTE

[REDACTED]
THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS)

Re SAC Let 61-14 (D) dated 3/21/61 regarding JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY (JBS).

[REDACTED] is a radio commentator who appears on several stations in the southeast, presenting a program entitled, [REDACTED]. He is on the Bureau mailing list to receive publications, his home address being [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] is personally known to SA [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]. On 3/24/61, he volunteered the fact he is [REDACTED] of The John Birch Society. He did not indicate he had actually formed a chapter at [REDACTED].

He has been actively fighting communism for the past several years. He has always praised the Bureau and is known to be a great admirer of the Director.

The above is furnished in view of referenced SAC Letter which states no Bureau publications of any kind are to be made available to JBS or to any of its representatives.

2 - Bureau RM
2 - Charlotte (100-9548) (100-7106)
ERG:pae
(4)

Joe

100-9548-19

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
MAR 28 1961
FBI - CHARLOTTE

L

'MEAN AND DIRTY' TECHNIQUES

This Is The 'John Birch Society'

EDITOR'S NOTE: The John Birch society is a semi-secret organization with a noble aim: fighting Communism. But its methods have stirred controversy in many U. S. cities. Barbara Bundschu headed a special research and investigating staff seeking to learn the society's purposes, operations and opposition across the nation. Following is the first of three dispatches on the staff's findings.

By BARBARA BUNDSCHU
By United Press International

Have you ever heard of the John Birch Society?

Unless you live in one of the communities where its activities have stirred up hot controversy, the chances are you haven't.

But chances are you are going to hear of it, and perhaps feel its impact, in the coming months.

Its announced purpose is a completely laudable one: to fight and destroy Communism within the United States. Its membership includes able and patriotic men.

But its methods, its specific aims and its judgments of some American leaders have led equally able and patriotic citizens to believe the John Birch Society is going far beyond the tactics of the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy.

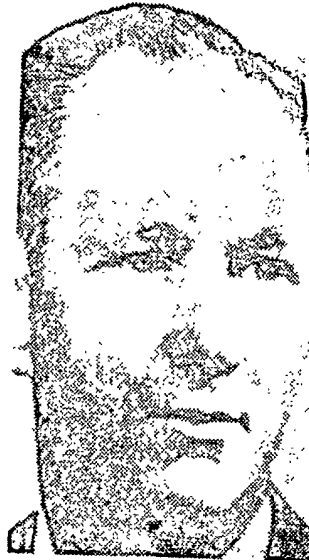
ITS HEAD is a retired candy company executive, Robert Welch, 61, of Belmont, Mass. A speech by Welch at the founding of the society in 1958 has become its "Blue Book" or summary of principles. The statements in that book and other remarks made by Welch are startling, to say the least.

Welch devotes his life to fighting Communism. What bothers those who know is the way Welch is fighting it.

In a letter written before he set up the society late in 1958 and still in limited circulation, Welch told friends that President Eisenhower, his brother, Dr. Milton Eisenhower, the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles and his brother, Allen Dulles, then and now head of the Central Intelligence Agency, were members of the Communist underground.

"The secret Communist looks and acts just like anybody else, only more so," Welch says in the society's "Blue Book." He could be anybody you know. In fact, Welch said, one of his prime suspects is "one of the nicest men you ever met. Most of them are."

EXPOSURE OF such persons, even through "mean and dirty" techniques, Welch said, is one of the most effective means of shocking the American people awake in time to



ROBERT WELCH

... Red Hunting Tar Heel

save themselves from Communism. He also advises members to set up front groups. To infiltrate community organizations and to engage in directed letter writing to promote specific campaigns of his ultra-conservative society.

It was to protest what these tactics were doing to Santa Barbara, Calif., that Editor Thomas Moore Storke raised his editorial voice.

"The News-Press condemns the tactics that have brought anonymous telephone calls of denunciation to Santa Barbara and other towns from members of the John Birch Society, or from its associates," Storke said.

to
aug Ba
3-31-61
Jae
CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
3-30-61

John Birch Society -
INFORMATION CONCERN-
ING - INTERNAL
SECURITY

100-9548-20

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 31 1961	
FBI	

★ ★ ★
 THE NEWS-PRESS con-
 demns the pressures on
 wealthy residents who fear and
 abhor Communism, to contrib-
 ute money to an organization
 whose leader has said that
 'for reasons you will under-
 stand, there can be no account-
 ing of funds.' . . .

"The John Birch Society al-
 ready has done a grave dis-
 service to Santa Barbara by
 arousing suspicions and a mu-
 tual distrust among men of
 goodwill. The organization's
 adherents, sincere in their op-
 position to Communism, do not
 seem to understand the dan-
 gers of the totalitarian dyna-
 mite with which they are tam-
 pering.

"The News-Press challenges
 them: come up from under-
 ground."

★ ★ ★
 WHAT IS THE REAL
 nature of this relatively new
 group on the American political
 scene? Political scientists
 would classify it as ultra-con-
 servative. It is and will remain
 a subject of controversy, how-
 ever, over whether its tactics
 are compatible with American
 democratic principles as they
 are most popularly understood.

It is, in itself, an authoritar-
 ian society. (Editor Storke's
 adjective was "totalitarian").
 Welch does not say the United
 States should have a similarly
 authoritarian form of govern-
 ment. But he is far from com-
 pletely sold on the form we
 now have.

By Welch's political stand-
 ards, Dwight Eisenhower is a
 Communist, and so are many
 others in high government
 places, past and present. These
 are standards not everyone ac-
 cepts.

The U.S. Senate on March 3
 heard Sen. Milton R. Young,
 North Dakota Republican, de-
 clare that Welch's accusations
 against Eisenhower and others
 had gone "beyond anything
 the American Military ever
 tolerated." On the other hand
 a subcommittee of the Senate
 has been set up to investigate
 the charges.

And because there is evi-
 dence to support the society's
 claim that it is growing, the
 controversy around it is also
 bound to grow in the months
 ahead.

★ ★ ★
 A LITTLE OVER three
 weeks after Storke's editorial,
 Chancellor Samuel B. Gould of
 the University of California at
 Santa Barbara, speaking at a
 University banquet, said a
 "new type" of secret student or-
 ganization had been set up on
 the campus and "unless it is
 checked, can destroy the uni-
 versity." Another official said
 "it was understood" Gould re-
 ferred to the Birch Society.

Gould said the organization
 to which he referred encour-
 ages students to become in-
 formers and "take on the tasks
 of security agencies."

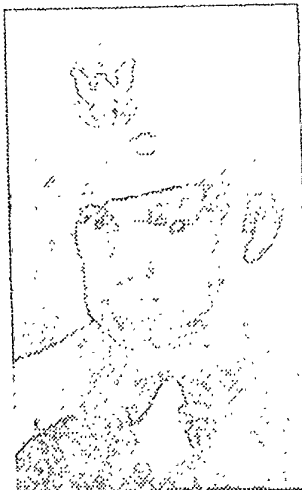
The organization has become
 embroiled in controversy in
 many states, including Wiscon-
 sin, Texas, Ohio, Kansas, Cal-
 ifornia and North Dakota.

Articles and editorial com-
 ment on the organization have
 been carried by a number of
 newspapers and magazines.

The amount of secrecy sur-
 rounding its operations has var-
 ied considerably from com-
 munity to community, and
 Welch has given up his fight
 to avoid publicity about the
 group.

★ ★ ★
 AT ISSUE BETWEEN the
 society and many who might
 otherwise share Welch's con-
 servative political and eco-
 nomic views is his persistent
 reasoning that everything he
 personally considers wrong is
 a Communist plot.

At issue between the society
 and those who condemn it is
 the tendency of its activities,
 to suppress if not the right,



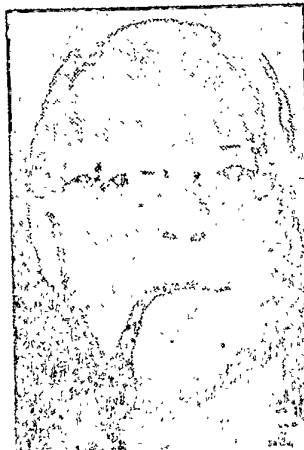
GEN EISENHOWER

. . . Red in 'Blue Book'

at least the respectability, of
 dissent.

John Birch had nothing to
 do with the group which bears
 his name. He was a young
 fundamentalist Baptist mission-
 ary from Georgia who served
 as an intelligence officer in
 China during World War II
 and was killed 10 days after
 V-J day by Chinese Commu-
 nists. He was 27 when he died.

Robert Welch never heard of
 Birch until after his death,
 but he has researched and
 written his life story. Welch
 has memorialized Birch as
 "probably the first American



casualty in the Chinese
 war, between Communism and
 the over-chinking 'free world,
 which is still being waged
 against us." And when he came
 to found a Communist-fighting
 organization, he called it the
 John Birch Society.

★ ★ ★
 IN BIRCH'S NAME, mem-
 bers of the society are asked to
 write letters to congressmen
 and others, operate in "front"
 organizations and through es-
 tablished community groups
 such as PTAs and chambers
 of commerce to 'push cam-
 paigns conceived by Welch as
 anti-Communist.

These include movements to
 impeach Chief Justice Earl
 Warren, to repeal the income
 tax law, to rout the social gos-
 pel from the churches, to op-
 pose the North - Atlantic Treaty
 Alliance, foreign aid, the
 United Nations and cultural, or
 any other, exchanges with Rus-
 sia.

At her farm home near Ma-
 con, Ga., Birch's mother, Mrs.
 George S. Birch, said she and
 her husband are "heartily in
 accord" with Welch's organiza-
 tion "and we are proud for it
 to bear our son's name."

Welch also is a native south-
 erner, born in North Carolina,
 Dec. 1, 1899.

He was reared in what he now
 calls "the intellectually re-
 stricting bonds of the unusually
 narrow Southern Baptist funda-
 mentalism." He spent four
 years at the university of
 North Carolina, two at the Na-
 val Academy and two at Har-
 vard Law School before going
 into the candy business. He
 was for years vice president of
 the James O. Welch Company,
 headed by his brother, which
 has factories in Massachusetts
 and in Los Angeles.

Welch was interviewed by
 UPI and the staff of the
 New York Times.

IN HIS OWN BIOGRAPHICAL sketch Welch wrote in the third person for society members — he "has one wife, two sons, a golden retriever dog, and fourteen golf clubs none of which he understands, but all of which he loves."

He is an affable man who smiles easily and exhibits in his writings a sense of humor, love of poetry and wide knowledge of history and literature.

He was a director of the National Association of Manufacturers for seven years, serving also as a vice president of the organization, and was former president of the Birch Society's council.

On Jan. 1, 1957, his biography says, he "gave up most of his business responsibilities — and most of his income — in order to devote practically all of his time and energy to the anti-Communist cause."

The John Birch Society was founded almost two years later, on Dec. 9, 1958, at Indianapolis. After Welch delivered a two-day speech to 11 men he had invited to hear it. That speech is today the "Blue Book" of the society's official statement of its aims and methods.

It is supplemented by monthly bulletins to members and the magazine "American Opinion," which Birch founded before the society and of which he is editor.

The message and aim is: "Less government, more responsibility and a better world."

Welch quite literally wants to repeal the 20th-century. But unlike many who share this sire, either politically or nostalgically, he views its trend toward "collectivism" not simply as a mistake but as a sinister conspiracy to change the economic structure of the United States so that this nation can be merged with the Soviet Union without a fight.

"You have only a few more years," he told his listeners at Indianapolis. "We are living . . . in such a fool's paradise as the people of China lived in 20 years ago."

"The danger is almost entirely internal," Welch said, "from Communist influences right in our midst and treason right in our government."

The idea that the nation must mobilize its resources to combat the external danger of Soviet military might and sputnik supremacy is, in Welch's view, a part of the Communist plot. "In other words, under the guise of fighting Communism, we are being stamped into the biggest jump ever towards, and perhaps the final jump right into, socialism and then the Communist camp."

Welch would repeal virtually all of the social and economic legislation of the last 30 years.

"The greatest enemy of man is, and always has been, government," he said.

★ ★ ★
"WE ARE NOT beginning any revolution, nor even a counter-revolution in any technical sense," he said. "Yet our determined overthrow of an entrenched tyranny is the very stuff of which revolutions are made."

The Los Angeles Times, in an editorial signed by Publisher Otis Chandler on March 12, saw an implication of sedition in Welch's statements. And, like many others, it deplored the identification of conservatism with extremism.

"The Times believes implicitly in the conservative philosophy," the editorial said. "It has challenged all these men and most of these institutions (which Welch attacks) on the soundness of one or more issues. But the Times does not believe that the argument for conservatism can be won — and we do believe it can be won — by smearing as enemies and traitors those with whom we sometimes disagree."

"Subversion, whether of the left or the right, is still subversion."

★ ★ ★
CRITICISM FROM the press is not likely to disturb Welch. He has already told his followers that "the domination of our press, television and radio by Communist influences is now so great that you simply are not allowed to learn or be reminded of the real nature of the beasts to whom we are losing." An editorial in "American Opinion" for February said the long-insolvent Communist newspaper, The Daily Worker, quit publication because "the 'line' taken by the (New York) Times long ago made it unnecessary, superfluous, and probably embarrassing to the Times."

"When you hear Welch's charges out of context . . . their absurdity is plain enough," said the Rev. A. Cranio in his congregation at Santa Barbara's Unitarian Church on February Sunday.

"But when you come upon them in the privacy of the society, surrounded and supported by Welch's rich, flowing language and ideas, their absurdity is well concealed."

"The man is a marvelously gifted demagogue . . ."

"There is another factor apart from the magic of Robert Welch that lends power to the movement . . . Both Welch and his people are genuinely afraid . . . driven by an almost wild fear of a persistent and pervasive sort. Because of the peculiar nature of their understanding of what it means to be an American, everywhere they look, in our society, they see signs of an incredibly devious subversion . . ."

(Tomorrow: The Society's doctrine and membership)

WIRES SENATE UNIT

Birch Head Asks To Be Investigated

BELMONT, Mass. — (AP) — Robert Welch, founder of the controversial John Birch Society, disclosed Saturday that he has asked the Senate internal security subcommittee to investigate the organization.

Welch's secretary made public a night letter that was wired Friday night to Sen. James O. Eastland, D-Miss., subcommittee chairman.

In it Welch promised "none of our members will plead the Fifth Amendment" and asserted the society's "only 'crime' is fighting communism."

The telegram was made public some 24 hours after Welch said he never had called former President Eisenhower a "card carrying Communist."

The denial came as criticism of the rightist society mounted following disclosure that Welch had written Eisenhower was a "dedicated, conscious agent of the communist conspiracy."

Welch in a privately published book also criticized Milton Eisenhower, brother of the former president and etched former Presidents Harry S. Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt and the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles as "tools of communism."

Welch said in his wire to Eastland:

"Because of the charges now being so widely circulated about us, some of which are extreme distortions of fact, and many of which are sheer fabrications, the John Birch Society respectfully requests an official investigation by the Senate internal security subcommittee of which you are chairman. . . ."

"In the course of such an investigation we hope to be able to present to your committee, and through your committee to the American people, the simple truth about the John Birch Society. . . ."

In Washington Friday a spokesman for the Department of Justice said the society's activities have become "a matter of concern" to that government agency.

J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, also published a statement implying criticism of the society.

Some congressmen have urged investigations by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, the Senate internal security subcommittee, and the Senate Government Operations Committee.

However, chairmen of these committees indicated they had no plans for such action.

And one congressman, Edgar W. Hiestand, R., a John Birch member, said attacks on the organization is a "pro-communist smear."

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-2-61

100-9548-21

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC (100-9548)

DATE: 4-5-61

FROM : SUPERVISOR [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING
INTERNAL SECURITY

[REDACTED] who identified himself as a resident of Mecklenburg Co., telephonically contacted the Charlotte Office on 4-4-61, and advised he had read articles which had recently appeared in the "Charlotte Observer" concerning the captioned society and desired to know whether the John Birch Society was a Communist dominated organization and whether or not BARBARA BUNDSCHU, the writer of the articles that appeared in the "Charlotte Observer," was affiliated with the Communist Party. He stated that he was not sure whether he could receive this information from the FBI but was interested in determining this information and thought he would check.

[REDACTED] concluded by stating that he would contact his Congressman in an effort to obtain this information.

[REDACTED] was advised that the jurisdiction and responsibility of the FBI does not extend to furnishing evaluations or comments concerning the character or integrity of any individual, publication, or organization and that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government.

HCS:hks

(2) *hks*

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[Signature]

DIRECTOR, FBI

4/5/61

SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING - INTERNAL SECURITY

On 4/3/61, [redacted] *July*
Charlotte, N. C., telephonically contacted the Charlotte
office and stated she is a member of the John Birch Society.
She stated that the April 2, 1961, issue of the "Charlotte
Observer," on page 8A, carried an article which was critical
of this organization. She said that at the end of this
article it was stated that J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director of the
FBI, had issued a statement which implied criticism of the
John Birch Society, and that she would like to obtain a copy
of this statement. She was advised this office could make
no comment regarding the article she referred to and she stated
that she believed she would write to FBI Headquarters in
Washington, D. C. and attempt to obtain such statement.

The foregoing is being furnished to the Bureau for
information, inasmuch as [redacted] may contact the Bureau.

There is enclosed copy of an article which appeared
in the "Charlotte Observer" in its issue of 4/2/61, which was
believed to be the article [redacted] refers to.

- 2 - Bureau (Enc. 1) (RM)
- ② - Charlotte (100-9548)

RLK:jnr
(4)

car mof

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Investigation of Group a Possibility

Justice Dept. 'Concerned' Over John Birch Society

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Justice Department today expressed "concern" over the anti-Communist John Birch Society and congressional leaders spoke of an investigation.

The Justice Department refused to say whether it is investigating the semi-secret society, but a spokesman said a "growing number of inquiries the Justice Department has received about the John Birch Society has made it a matter of concern to the attorney general."

Vice Chairman Thomas J. Dodd, D-Conn., of the Senate internal security subcommittee said he would bring up the possibility of investigating the arch-conservative group at the subcommittee's next meeting.

FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover,

in the April Law Enforcement Bulletin severely criticized "vigilante action" by Americans combating communism. He did not mention any specific group.

He said Communists stand to gain from every rift among the American people. "Unfortunately, this involves certain people across the country who engage in reckless charges against one another."

"The label of Communist is too often indiscriminately attached to those whose views differ from the majority," he added.

Hoover said "this is neither the time for inaction nor vigilante action" against communism. "The ingredients for Communist coups in nations which have fallen under its spell always include a populace shaken with fear, hysteria and confusion."

"There is about all the danger of irresponsible counteraction by citizens who lend impetus to communism through inept attempts to fight this insidious menace."

Hoover said the way to fight it "is to study it, understand it and discover what can be done about it."

Dodd did not say whether he would press for a full-fledged investigation of the Birch Society.

Chairman John L. McClellan, D-Ark., said his Senate Government Operations Committee has no plans to investigate the society because it has no jurisdiction. The committee and its permanent investigating subcommittee, also headed by McClellan, have broad investigative powers but only on matters affecting government activities.

RALEIGH TIMES
Raleigh, N. C.
3-31-61

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COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

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Joe Bureau

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NIXON 'SLIPPERY'

Birch Society Says Taft Was Robbed Of Nomination

This is the last in a series about the semi-secret John Birch Society, an anti-Communist organization that has caused controversy in its methods.

By BARBARA BUNDSCHU
United Press International

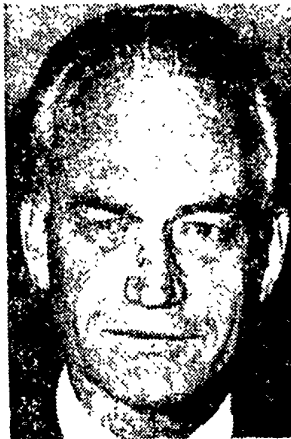
Robert Welch, founder and leader of the John Birch Society, charges that the 1952 GOP presidential nomination was stolen from the late Sen. Robert A. Taft.

In a startling "letter to Khrushchev," published in his magazine, "American Opinion," in 1958 and now available in pamphlet form, Welch told the Russian leader he knew that among the pro-Communist activities of recent years had been: "The snatching of the Republican nomination from Taft in 1952 by purchase, theft, secret deals and other tactics more foul than had ever before appeared in American politics."

Suitcases Of Money

Later in the same letter, which starts out assuring Khrushchev that "we know that you are winning the cold war by leaps and bounds," Welch wrote: "The President of one of America's largest banks took suitcases full of currency to the convention, to bribe delegates away from Taft; and he was rewarded, for thus providing such spontaneity, by a major ambassadorship."

In an interview recently, Welch named Taft as the



SEN. GOLDWATER

'Outstanding People'

Goldwater, in response to a UPI inquiry, said he wasn't aware of any Birch society endorsement and wasn't in any case running for anything except the Senate. His term expires in 1964. Goldwater said he was familiar with the organization, that he had met several of its members during his travels and "they are very outstanding people."

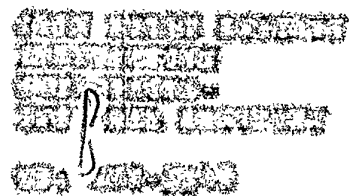
Better Than Rocky

Welch, in a "Blue Book" speech of December, 1958, called former Vice President Richard M. Nixon "one of the ablest, shrewdest, most disingenuous, and slipperiest politicians that ever showed up on the American scene."

Welch's views on President Kennedy were indicated before his election. He did not mention Kennedy by name but his sentiments were made clear in a discussion about "amoral man."

"You will usually find him in church on Sunday morning, maybe even a Catholic Church," Welch said then. "But as a member of the United States Senate, running for the Presidency, and smart enough to know the strong Communist support behind the scenes which he will have to get in order to have any chance of being nominated in 1960, such an

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-1-61
C.A. McKnight,
Editor



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amoral man can do a tremendous amount of ball-carrying on behalf of the Communist aims here in the United States; and he can do an almost equal amount of damage to anti-Communist morale in other parts of the world, by his well-publicized speeches against Chiang Kai-shek or in favor of the Algerian rebels. . .

Prominent Men

"I am prepared to defend their right to express their views, as I would 'leftist' opinions," said Los Angeles Attorney A. L. Wirin about the John Birch Society. "That its views, however, are acceptable to any portion of the American public is a sad commentary on the present American political scene."

Sen. Milton R. Young, R-N. D., who has criticized the society on the Senate floor, said "what surprises me most is not the size but the number of prominent men who belong."

Twelve of the 26 men currently listed as members of the society's council are listed in Who's Who in America. They include two former presidents of the National Association of Manufacturers — William J. Grede and Cola G. Parker, both of Wisconsin — and a third former NAM president, Ernest G. Swigert of Portland, Ore., had previously been listed as a council member.

The Racine, Wis., Journal-Times, noting the association of these and other prominent businessmen with the group said: "It is a cause for crackpots, but those allegedly responsible persons who support it will be tarred with the same brush."

Some answers to Wirin's question on the society's appeal were provided March 18 in two pages of letters printed by the Los Angeles Times following its editorial condemnation of the society.

Four writers said the Times articles preceding the editorial were prompt and fair in joining the society.

Letter writers who praised

the newspaper for its stand included former Vice President Richard M. Nixon, the presidents of the University of California and Occidental College and the chancellor of the University of California at Los Angeles, Rep. James C. Corman, D-Calif., and Methodist Bishop Gerald Kennedy.

One letter, signed only with initials and presumably written with a matrimonial "we," complimented the Times for explaining "probably much better than we might the reasons why we resigned after several months as members."

The letter said the writers had become disturbed by cards distributed by the society last year to protest the planned summit meeting. Designed for mailing to President Eisenhower, they read: "If you go—don't come back!"

Nixon Retorts

"Then we began to note that almost every public official — Roosevelt, Truman, Ike, Nixon, Dulles and others became ever widening targets of Welch.

"We heard whispers, remarks prefaced by, 'would you believe it if I told you—?' and we became increasingly wary.

"We became disenchanted with the John Birch Society, and withdrew. . ."

Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon wrote the Times: "It may at times seem unrealistic and naive to follow the rules of the game when our opponents are so unscrupulous and completely devoid of morality. But, in the end, refusing to resort to methods that are wrong not only is right but in the long run is the most effective way to combat an evil doctrine like communism. . .

"One of the most indelible lessons of human history is that those who adopt the doctrine that the end justifies the means inevitably find the means become the end."

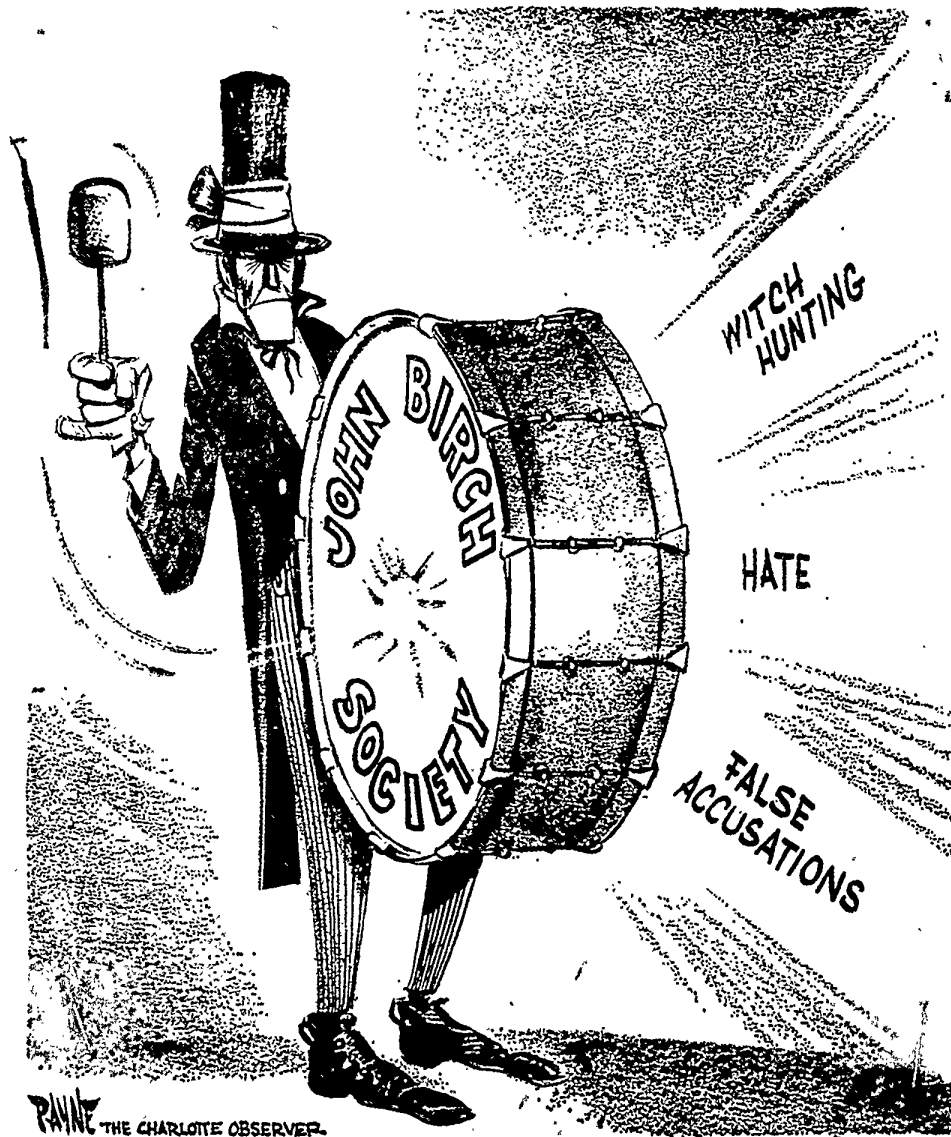
Same As Court

Times Publisher Otis Porter rejoiced on two counts at the heavy reaction to the newspaper's stand. The readers' expenditure for "stamps, phone calls and shoe leather (and aspirin)" he took as a happy omen that the economy is on the upswing.

The readers lined up slightly in favor of the John Birch Society in almost exactly the same proportion as the Supreme Court has lined up five to four in favor of the doctrine that freedom of speech is not an absolute right when it becomes involved with Communism.

The court minority which might look askance at the society's own efforts to suppress dissent would nonetheless support its right to think and say what it chooses.

The Drummer



New Band Of Extremists Steps Into The Spotlight

There are many people in the United States who believe that government has grown too big, taxes too high, the Communists too strong and the country altogether too "liberal" or "socialistic."

They think that the America of Jefferson and Madison has become the America of Schlesinger and Reuther, that Eisenhower was no better than Truman or Roosevelt, that Kennedy may be worse than all of them. They are certain that the welfare state will hatch into the socialist state and finally into American Communism.

Some of these people — sincere, concerned, frustrated — have been led into an organization called the John Birch Society. It is an organization respectable enough on the surface, but twisted and potentially dangerous beneath.

Its founder is a native North Carolinian named Robert Welch. He is a product of the University of North Carolina and Harvard Law School, and his self-made candy fortune tends to lend respectability to what he says and does.

His goal in life is to fight Communism, he has said. The aim of his organization is "less government, more responsibility and a better world."

* * *

Beneath the fine generalities lies the poison.

Welch and his Society seem willing to fight the Communists with any tactics that promise results. Expose them with "mean and dirty" techniques, the founder has advised. In other words, the end justifies the means, and it seems to worry Mr. Welch not at all that this is a tenet right from the Communist handbook.

Welch does not point out mistakes, he points out conspiracies. What he does not like is, presto, a Communist plot. Those who oppose him are bound to be Communists — public officials, ministers, newspapers, educators.

Every liberal influence is suspect. The Communists are everywhere — on the Supreme Court, in the White House, in the Central Intelligence Agency. Welch has even written that Dwight Eisenhower and John Foster Dulles could only be considered members of the Communist underground.

It is the mentality that has launched

a new, semi-secret organization designed to save America. It is a mentality that has not been repudiated by its offspring.

The John Birch Society could be a valuable addition to American public life as the voice of responsible conservatism. It can only harm the country if it becomes a vigilante group, setting its own standards of Americanism and pursuing and vilifying all who disagree.

The radicals of the right can be as dangerous as the extremists of the left, as the country learned from Senator McCarthy and some of his aides. And there are disturbing signs that among the followers of Robert Welch are people who wish to stamp upon the country their own ideas of loyalty, patriotism, free speech and "American" behavior.

A few years ago Robert Welch wrote as follows in a secretly circulated book:

"While I, too, think that Milton Eisenhower is a Communist and has been for 30 years, this opinion is based largely on general circumstances of his conduct.

"But my firm belief that Dwight Eisenhower is a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy is based on an accumulation of detailed evidence so extensive and so palpable that it seems to put this conviction beyond any reasonable doubt."

* * *

The man who writes this kind of thing is either ill or malicious, and it is no wonder that some in the Robert Birch Society protest that this is merely a personal opinion, entirely irrelevant.

It is far from irrelevant, because it demonstrates the kind of mind that projected this society upon the scene and the kind of mind that speaks for it now.

A few years ago Robert Welch was writing that Eisenhower, Truman and Roosevelt were Communists all. Today his organization demands the impeachment of the chief justice of the United States on spurious grounds.

The American people can have little confidence in an organization that projects itself into public affairs under such auspices, with no public accounting of either its money or its membership, with scant regard for its use of those harsh "Communist" and "traitor"

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
5-1-61

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JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION
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-John Birch Society Has 2 Units Here

There are two chapters of the John Birch Society in Charlotte. Founded by candy-maker Robert Welch, the society has headquarters in the Boston suburb of Belmont, Mass., and seeks to use vigorous methods in rooting out opinions that it feels will lead to an early Communist seizure of power in the United States.

The society's chief activities are in the area of opinion-forming. Its members strive to join opinion-leading groups, write letters to newspapers, and protest verbally to teachers.

The two Charlotte chapters, according to local volunteer coordinator Leon L. Clark, who runs the Holly Smith Camera stores, have membership of about 40.

Clark said Saturday that the two chapters are led by Robert H. Maas of Rt. 4, Matthews, who works in the industrial relations department of Douglas Aircraft Co. here, and Mrs. William Haake of 1125 Princeton Ave., wife of the sales manager of Skid Corp.

The chapter led by Maas meets every month in the Public Library, Clark said, while Mrs. Haake's chapter meets in her home.

Clark said Saturday that the group has contacted teachers about things the society finds objectionable in the classroom. An example, Clark said, is the omission of the word "republic" from a history textbook in use at South Mecklenburg High School.

"We want to get back to a constitutional republic," Clark said.

Clark said this is part of a three-part series of articles about the John Birch Society's national impact, written by Barbara Bundschu of United Press International and carried on The Observer's editorial page, was distorted.

He declined to expand his views further.

Clark said the chapters here were formed after a visit to Charlotte by a paid worker for the national John Birch Society, Douglas Heinsohn, of Sevierville, Tenn. Heinsohn discussed the society's aims in a talk at the Public Library.

Heinsohn, an organizer for ten southern states, is the son of A. G. Heinsohn. The elder Heinsohn is president of Cherokee Mills of Sevierville and a member of the council, or national board, of the society.

The Charlotte chapters, Clark said, have people from all walks of life, "including some of our biggest lawyers and financiers."

He mentioned that the society plans a presentation of its aims to a group in another North Carolina city this week. The group is thinking about forming a society chapter.

Clark said the chief activity of the local chapters to date has been a letter-writing campaign, asking support of the society's drive to elect Warren, Chief Justice of the United States and a former governor of California (1943-53).

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-2-61

**JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING-
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Letters To The Editor

Readers Comment On Anti-Communists

Everyone Agrees On Single Issue

Editor, The News:

Throughout the recent controversy here, there, and everywhere on the John Birch Society, I have noticed one thing peculiarly common to those who speak out against it. Each of these people terminate their statements to the effect that they do not agree with the Society on one issue, namely the public should be made more aware of the Communist menace.

The question has puzzled many. How? Certainly not by joining such as the John Birch Society, nor by seeking out people like Billy James Hargis, Dr. Fred Schwarz, Carl McIntire, Fulton Lewis Jr., Clarence Manion, or watching the film Operation Abolition.

We dread even mentioning the House Un-American Activities Committee and its publications.

Now, then? The public is due an explanation. Feeling that one is long overdue I will endeavor to be a spokesman for these disputants, for they do have the solution. First, we must ready ourselves for the task by purging our souls and coming to the realization that our form of government is not after all, perfect. This idea we arrive at from the fact that all of the governed people are not perfect.

HENCE, Edward - R. - Murrow-wise, we declare to the world that we discriminate against the Catholic, Jew, Negro, Hill-Billy, Migratory Worker, Asian, African, European, and according to the latest Coronet Magazine, the Atheist. Proceeding with an overwhelming feeling of guilt, we are now conditioned to discover what really makes the Communist tick.

What could be more simple? Ask him! Let the Communist teachers teach our children about communism. We will not rely on our own Communist teachers alone, but bring in some from the "Mother Country" on a teacher exchange program. Then let's exchange students so that we can get our information down to the grass roots. Of course we'll have a cultural exchange, for this gets the information to the cultured and to those who would like to think they are cultured. It also helps finance information on the Communist menace coming into this country from behind the iron curtain.

The latest government move steps up the efficiency by not labeling this information as propaganda anymore. Why? Because after all, the American people are all brilliant enough to read this literature and make up their own minds. Besides, labeling it as such may cause hard feelings and even endanger the cultural exchange program.

THE MASTER STROKE of course was inviting Mr. Khrushchev to this country. If you want to know what hell is, ask the devil. Now that Mr. K. has seen our country, hasn't he voiced a loud plea for peace? It didn't work on the devil but I guess it worked on our visitor.

Now for those who seem to remember his also saying that our grandchildren will live under communism, and that the Communists will bury us, the answer is simple. They wish to take us over peacefully and then bury us in the same manner. There are other ways to find out about the Communist menace of course.

We can join one of the many "front" organizations that practically no one writes letters to

Greenville News
Greenville, S. C.
4-9-61
Wayne W. Freeman,
Editor

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
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the editor about, and which Time does not give even the time of day. This is not unconstitutional.

Only those writing their Congressmen asking them to save our country can possibly be trampling the Constitution. I've searched it diligently and can't see where it's unconstitutional, but someone is bound to find it one of these days. I hope sincerely that this letter will help clear up the cloud in the minds of those who had doubts.

RUTH LAMMERS

Greenville.

Paid Informers Use Low Tricks

Editor, The News:

In last Sunday's paper you published a long and obviously distorted attack on the John Birch Society sent out by a purported "research team" of the UPI, in which they assert that the society is "more dangerous than the late Senator McCarthy."

Suppose we recall what this stripe of writer was saying about McCarthy when he was still alive and a menace to their complacency:

In 1954 the Washington Post prepared a series of articles on McCarthy which claimed, along with other things, that he had accumulated a cache of arms in the basement of the Senate Office Building and was stealing secret documents out of the government files. These articles were never published, but the fact that they were prepared, and at great cost and trouble, is established by the sworn testimony of the Messrs. Alfred Friendly, executive editor of the Washington Post-Times Herald, Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., at that time Chairman of the Americans for Democratic Action, and Clayton Fritchey, then editor of the Democratic Digest.

ACCORDING to their own testimony, these three liberal bigwigs paid well over ten thousand dollars, over a period of some nine months, to a professional confidence man named Paul Hughes who was posing as a member of Senator McCarthy's staff. The documentation of the federal court in the District of Columbia where Hughes was tried for perjury also shows that he promised the liberal bigwigs to "tie in all illegal incidents performed by me to specific McCarthy staff personnel."

The articles were quashed by the Washington Post because it had a last minute stir of caution and it found, among other things, that three affidavits allegedly from employees of the Bell Telecommunications Laboratories (which manufacture secret equipment for the government) were forged in the names of employees who did not even exist. Hughes was not brought to trial, however, on any complaint of the men who had paid such a fancy price for his lies. They were suffering in silence.

He tried his tricks on the FBI in another connection, and that organization promptly caught him and dug up the Washington Post story. He was indicted for perjury before the grand jury, but the trial jury refused to convict; obviously because the jurors, or most of them, believed that the Messrs. Rauh and Fritchey and Friendly had known all along that they were buying, not facts, but a smear.

NOW THE USE of paid informers is very ~~easy~~ and in the liberal vocabulary, which the in-

formers are used by ~~the~~ enforcement agencies or ~~are allowed~~ to testify before Congress. It would seem, therefore, that this expensive attempt to plant a paid spy on the staff of a committee of the United States Senate, made by people who loudly condemn the use of paid informers against criminals and subversives, would have attracted the attention of professional newsmen.

But United Press International did not send in a "research team." Time Magazine did not publish an "exposure." The Huntley-Brinkley outfit didn't get off any cracks. There was a strange silence all around.

One can only surmise that, in the eyes of the big newsmen, any smear tactic is okay if it is directed, not against criminals and subversives, but against anti-Communists.

BEAUFORT B. COFFLAND
Laurens.

Greenville Has One John Birch Society, Another Is Organized

By TED SHELTON

Greenville has had an active John Birch Society for the past six months and a second chapter has just completed organization and expects to call its first meeting soon, spokesmen for the organization said yesterday.

John W. Norwood Jr., a local attorney, identified himself as a volunteer coordinator for the society in this area and pointed out the society also has paid coordinators. Such individuals have the power to organize chapters in the various localities of their jurisdiction.

Leader of the more recently organized chapter is Joseph Dermody of 21 Arcadia Drive. He said his group has 12 members at present, that they have just completed organization, and they expect to call the first meeting within the next few days. His chapter number is 686.

BACK TO CONSERVATISM

Mr. Dermody said the organization grew out of an anti-communism discussion group led by Father Walter Melfi at St. Mary's Catholic Church. The group was known as the Father Melfi Forum. It is predominately Catholic.

He commented his group subscribes to the principles and stand taken by Robert Welch, organizer of the John Birch Society and described the organization as "a grass roots movement back to conservatism."

He said the society represents a growing awareness on the part of the members, an awakening to the dangers which are against us, and concern for the lack of action by representatives in Washington.

Mr. Dermody said the membership conducts letter campaigns to congress "to state our position" on certain questions.

The chapter leader of the second and older Greenville group is a local Presbyterian minister who noted that his name not be used in connection with his remarks.

He said he subscribes to the principles of the society and charged that the organization has been "grossly misrepresented" in recent articles.

"The current attack on the society is Communist inspired," he added and said, "They have evidence that it is."

He said his chapter, No. 523, has between 20 and 30 members. The group meets each month to discuss articles and issues which appear in the society's monthly bulletin and magazine.

He said he believes the John Birch Society is the "best organization I have run across yet to combat communism."

HOME CHAPTER MEMBER

Dr. Thomas Parker, Greenville councilman of Ward 4, said he is a member of the "home chapter" in Belmont, Mass., the first chapter organized by Welch. As such a member he is not required to attend local meetings which are conducted once each month.

Dr. Parker terms the society a "high class organization" endeavoring to keep the people informed through letter-writing campaigns.

Mr. Norwood, also a member of the home chapter, said an all-day seminar of persons interested in anti-Communist activity has been scheduled for Saturday and Sunday at the Francis Marion Hotel in Charleston. He will speak at the meeting, he said.

He said he has been active in the organization for about six months and believes "the best way to combat the growing Communist menace is in the John Birch Society."

He has available for showing film on the subject and also tape recordings of Welch speeches on the subject, one a two-hour tape.

On the other hand, while John Birch Society members seek to strengthen their organization, at least one Greenville woman is raising her voice in objection to the organization and its aims. She speaks for many in the opinion that the John Birch Society represents a threat to individual liberty.

city represents a threat to individual liberty.

Mrs. Len Dunlap of 422 Crescent Ave. emphasized, "I feel very strongly about this. I feel the society is dangerous on the grounds that it does not accept the principles of our Constitution in action."

She continues, "It takes advantage of people's prejudices and under the banner of Christianity and anti-Communism is tending to undermine both Christian and American principles. In its philosophy it poses a threat to individual liberty."

OPPOSITION ENCOUNTERED

Mrs. Dunlap said she first became informed of the society and its local members during the organization of a local chapter of the American Field Service Foreign Student Exchange program.

She said her group ran into opposition from some residents who questioned whether the program was Communist-inspired, and some who implied the foreign student exchange program was another way for Communists to send spies into America.

"I feel the local people are sincere in their efforts to fight Communism," she continued. "But if they are depending on Mr. Welch entirely for their information I would say that they are certainly getting a very one-sided interpretation of the forces in the world today which are causing our problems. I disagree with Welch that all the forces in the world are part of a Communist conspiracy."

But Mrs. Dunlap agrees with the society members on one thing: the American public should be aware of and concerned about the Communist menace.

She criticized the "dividing internally into categories of liberals and conservatives," observing that such an internal division results in total weakness and is a known Communist tactic of opposition.

Greenville News
Greenville, S.C.
4-5-61

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING-
INTERNAL SECURITY
(CE 100-9548)

100-9548-29

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 14 1961
FBI - CHARLOTTE

DIRECTOR, FBI

4/14/61

SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
INTERNAL SECURITY

There is enclosed an article written by TED SHELTON, reporter, which appeared in the "Greenville News," Greenville, S. C., on 4/5/61, outlining the activities of one chapter of the society in Greenville, S. C., during the past six months and of a newly formed second chapter of the same society in Greenville, S. C., of which JOSEPH DUNN, Greenville, is the leader. The leader of the original group was not disclosed, however, it quoted JOHN H. NORMOOD, JR., a local attorney, who is one of the leading citizens of this city, as being a volunteer coordinator of the society in this area, and active in the local chapter. Dr. THOMAS PARKER, a member of the Greenville, S. C. City Council, was also quoted as being a member of the home chapter of the society in Belmont, Massachusetts.

There is also enclosed a newspaper article which appeared in the "Greenville News," Greenville, S. C., 4/9/61, setting forth letters to the editor, written by RUTH LAMERS of Greenville, and HANFORD B. COCHRAN of Laurens, S.C., with reference to the Society.

No investigation or other local inquiries have been made with reference to these local chapters of the John Birch Society in accordance with existing Bureau instructions.

The Bureau will be furnished any additional information coming to Charlotte's attention regarding this matter.

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② - Charlotte (100-9548)

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100-9548-30

1700 Johnston Building
Charlotte 2, North Carolina
April 10, 1961

[redacted]
Statesville, North Carolina

Dear [redacted]

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter
dated April 6, 1961, with enclosed literature.

Your thoughtfulness in sending me this material
is sincerely appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Donald E. Roney
Special Agent in Charge

*Abode referenced
literature placed
in 100-9548-1A2
CS*

GHC:jac

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100-9548-31

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL

James A. Gray, PUBLISHER Robert F. Campbell, EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR
EDITORIAL PAGE STAFF: H. Clay Ferree, Frances B. Griffin,
Howard L. Myers, Alan R. Perry, Romulus T. Weatherman.

WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1961

Behind the John Birch Society

SINCE both the friends and the enemies of the John Birch Society agree that it ought to be investigated, nothing should stand in the way of a hard look by Congress at this strange organization.

But any congressional probe limited to the opinions of society founder Robert Welch and other leading Birchists would be misdirected. Although it would make headlines, it would not answer the more important questions about the right-wing group.

These are the questions:

—How does the John Birch Society advocate reaching its professed goals of less government, greater individual responsibility and a better world?

—What are the techniques used by society members to carry on the battle against those they denounce as Communist agents and Communist dupes?

—How is the organization financed and directed?

—Why is it, because of its determination

to defeat so-called socialistic legislation, be required to register as a lobbying organization and file the reports required of such groups?

Answers to these questions and others would enable the American public to come to an informed judgment about the Birchists. Congressional attack on Mr. Welch, no matter how justified, cannot serve that purpose.

Investigate the John Birch Society, yes. But investigate it in the calm and judicious manner which is the exact opposite of the fanaticism displayed by Mr. Welch.

And while the investigation is going on, it would be well worth Congress' time to take an equally careful look at the men and the organizations far to the right of even the Birchists; men such as George Lincoln Rockwell and his American Nazis, the still active Gerald L. K. Smith and the phony evangelists who seek personal glorification by playing on sincerely patriotic anti-communism.

JOURNAL
Winston-Salem, N.C.
4-1-61

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John Birch Society Has Two Charlotte Chapters

Another Report, Page B12

CHARLOTTE (AP) — The controversial John Birch Society has two chapters in Charlotte with a total membership of about 40.

Leon Clark, Charlotte volunteer coordinator of the anti-Communist groups, said that "lots" of Charlotte people belong to the "home chapter" in Belmont, Mass.

The head of the society, ex-North Carolinian and former can-

dy manufacturer Robert Welch, has his headquarters in Belmont.

Clark, who declined to name local chapter members, said one group is led by R. H. Maas, an employee of Douglas Aircraft Co. The other is headed by Mrs. William Haake, wife of a society member who is a salesman for Skil Corp.

The foundation for the Charlotte chapters was laid last June when Douglas Heinsohn III of Sevier-

ville, Tenn., presented the views and goals of the John Birch organization at a meeting in the Charlotte Public Library.

Heinsohn, a paid worker, is a major coordinator for the society, supervising organizations in ten southern states.

His father, A. G. Heinsohn Jr., president of Cherokee Mills of Sevierville, is a member of the Council of the John Birch Society.

Clark said his primary responsibility was coordinating the activities of the Charlotte chapters but that he made presentations to groups in both Carolinas.

The Charlotte chapters, he said, "have people from all walks of life including some of our biggest lawyers and financiers."

Cites Growth

He said the groups attending presentations in other towns have grown from five to 30-100 as interest spread.

Clark and Haake are dedicated to the anti-Communist cause of the John Birch Society and express genuine concern over the possibility of a Communist-controlled United States.

Clark sees the Communists' avowed aim of world domination as being "right on schedule."

He cites, as does Welch, Soviet control of eastern Europe and the Red government of China. He cites Nikita Khrushchey's boast at the United Nations that "we will bury you." And, he said, the Communists have told the target date for takeover of the United States is 1972.

It is "possible," Clark said.

Founder Requests Probe Of John Birch Society

BELMONT, Mass. (AP) — Robert Welch, founder of the controversial John Birch Society, disclosed Saturday he has asked the Senate Internal Security subcommittee to investigate the organization.

Welch's secretary made public a night letter which was wired Friday night to Sen. James O. Eastland, D-Miss., subcommittee chairman.

In it Welch promised "none of our members will plead the Fifth Amendment" and asserted the society's "only 'crime' is fighting communism."

The telegram was made public some 24 hours after Welch said he never had called President Eisenhower a "card-carrying Communist."

The denial came as criticism of the rightist society mounted, following disclosure Welch had written Eisenhower was a "dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

Welch, in a privately published book, also criticized Milton Eisenhower, brother of the former president, and called former Presidents Harry S. Truman and Franklin D. Roosevelt and the late Secretary of State John Foster Dulles as "tools of communism."

Welch said in his wire to Eastland: "Because of the charges now being so widely circulated about us, some of which are extreme distortions of fact, and many of which are sheer fabrications, the John Birch Society respectfully requests an official investigation by the Senate Internal Security subcommittee of which you are chairman."

"In the course of such an investigation we hope to be able to present to your committee, and through your committee to the American people, the simple truth about the John Birch Society."

JOURNAL & SENTINEL
Winston-Salem, N.C.
4-2-61

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING
INTERNAL SECURITY
(CE 100-9548)

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100-9548-33

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FBI - CHARLOTTE

Answers Attacks

As for the ~~charges~~ on the society, Clark said: "We are patriotic Americans. We are trying to save this country for the American people. If an organization is patriotic, it can't be subversive. We are promoting less central government and more personal freedom."

He said the society is not a secret organization.

The chief activity of the Charlotte chapters to date, Clark said, was a letter-writing campaign in support of the society's drive to impeach Earl Warren, chief justice of the United States Supreme Court.

Clark said the society believes the "Warren court" has usurped power specifically denied it by the Constitution and has become a law-making body.

He accuses Justice Warren of "misbehavior" in office and of "violating his oath of office" and adds:

"A Socialist"

"He is a socialist. All of his actions back up the fact he wants to make the United States a socialist state."

Clark and Haaake claim that of 39 cases dealing with communism during Justice Warren's time in office, 36 have been decided in favor of Communists.

Clark indicated that the society will go into action in the future against lecturers they believe to be spouting the Communist line and representatives of Red front organizations.

Clark said the society will not call anybody a Communist or a Red-front representative unless there are specific citations by a Senate or House committee for Communist activity.

Clark was asked if he believed President Eisenhower to be an agent of the Communist conspiracy.

McCarthy Faults

"I don't know," Clark said, but "if Dwight Eisenhower wants to answer I'm sure the press, radio and television will give him all of the space and time he needs."

Clark considers the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., a "great patriot," but he finds fault with the senator's Communist-hunt methods which eventually earned him the censure of the U. S. Senate.

He believed President Eisenhower has the opportunity to be the "greatest president," but he has yet to himself fully.

Birch Society Leader Called a Fake Patriot

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Stephen M. Young, D-Ohio, Monday called the founder of the far-right John Birch Society a little Hitler, a Mussolini, a fake patriot, and a slick demagogue.

But Young called for no investigation by Congress.

Some cries have arisen in Congress for an investigation of founder Robert Welch, who once described former President Dwight D. Eisenhower as "a dedicated, conscious agent of the Communist conspiracy."

Young, however, told the Senate that Congress is too busy to take time for such an investigation.

Even if there were time, Young continued, "any mercenary demagogue has the right to express opinions, though discredited, unfounded and false."

And, Young concluded, the John Birch Society, like similar organizations in the past, will die "unwept, unhonored and unsung."

But while Young attacked the society on the floor of the Senate, another congressman issued a statement in its defense.

Rep. John H. Rousselot, R-Calif., said he joined the John Birch Society several months ago "because I believe that, in the main, the society is designed to oppose the Communist threat in a positive, legal and correct way."

"It is basically made up of individual study groups in which the members read about and discuss communism in an effort to understand fully the menace it

presents to America," he said.

"As a result of these studies, members write friends and public officials and discuss their thinking on political issues."

Rousselot added, however, that certain quoted statements of Welch did not represent the thinking of the whole society.

And the congressman said he would welcome an investigation of the society—the sooner the better.

Various critics and some friends of the society have urged investigations by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, the Senate internal security subcommittee, or the Senate Government Operations Committee.

But the chairmen of all three have indicated they have no plans for any probe of the society.

In his speech, Young said Welch, 61, a retired candy manufacturer from Belmont, Mass., "is succeeding handsomely in selling life memberships in his society for a thousand dollars each and raking in thousands of dollars every month in members' dues."

The leaders of the society, Young said, are "right-wing crackpots" who "would undermine the very foundations of American democracy."

"I assert the John Birch Society is a fascist group," Young said. "It is well-larded with right-wing crackpots. It is an ideological abomination, and the self-appointed vigilantes who are its leaders deserve the disdain and scorn of every American who values his democratic heritage."

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Winston-Salem, N.C.
4-4-61

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
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(CE 100-9548)

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AS OTHER EDITORS SEE IT

From The Denver Post

How Ridiculous Can They Get

This newspaper has always taken the position that our people need to be as alert to the danger of Communist subversion at home as to the danger of Communist expansion abroad.

We have also pointed out, however, that there is an important distinction between alertness to real danger and an obsessive determination to conjure up dangers where no dangers exist.

Those who see Communist dangers all about them — in our churches, in our schools, in our textbooks and in old and reputable organizations serving constructive public purposes — have gone beyond the state of reasonable alertness.

While they are entitled to their own private hallucinations, they do serious public harm when they bring wild and irresponsible charges of communism against institutions and organizations that are working to promote the public good.

Though these charges cannot be proved, they sometimes undermine public confidence where public confidence is deserved.

They blur the distinction — which ought to be kept clear and unmistakable — between real Communist subversion and active American citizenship.

All this is said by way of deploring the attacks that have recently been made both in attacks that have recently been made both in Boulder and in Denver against the Foreign Policy Association — World Affairs Center, which is sponsoring the Great Decisions program.

The Foreign Policy Association has been in operation 42 years, working to stimulate public interest in world affairs and to promote broad public participation in world affairs discussions.

Its board of directors is dominated by investment bankers, corporation executives, distinguished educators and men and women of high public standing and irreproachable reputation.

It has been commended by Dwight D. Eisenhower, Richard M. Nixon, Lyndon B. Johnson, John F. Kennedy and scores of senators and public figures in both political parties.

More than 350 American corporations contribute funds to the Foreign Policy Association. Hundreds of church and community organizations and 40 major newspapers, including this one, have cooperated in its Great Decisions program in 1,000 U. S. communities.

Thousands of Denverites have taken part in Great Decisions groups and know at first hand whether their discussions were serving the ends of a Communist conspiracy.

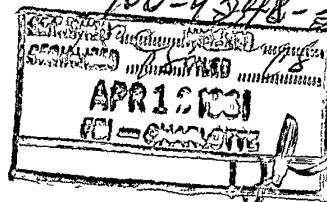
The attacks on the Foreign Policy Association are compounded of distortions and misrepresentations.

They spring from the disturbed minds of people who see Communists all about them in the same way that chronic alcoholics see pink elephants.

The best remedy for anyone who feels inclined to take these attacks seriously would be to join a Great Decisions group and find out for himself whether they serve the Kremlin or the cause of responsible citizenship in a free society.

ENTERPRISE
High Point, N.C.
4-8-61
Holt McPherson,
Editor

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING-
INTERNAL SECURITY
(CE 100-9548)



Poorest Reason

It would be a waste of time and money to investigate the John Birch Society. Still the poorest possible reason for not investigating it is Senator Goldwater's statement that there would be "a lot of embarrassed people" in Congress if an investigation were conducted.

Congress is not set up to prevent the embarrassment of Congressmen. Yet members of that branch of government have set a bad example for the rest of government in covering up Congressional spending on expense accounts, etc. If they fail to investigate anything because Congressmen might be embarrassed, Congressmen ought to be ashamed of themselves. Certainly they should stop probing the behavior of others, if their own faults are deliberately covered up.

Belonging to Congress ought not to be the same thing as pleading the Fifth Amendment and when Congressmen cover up for Congressmen that amounts to the same thing.

News & Observer
Raleigh, N. C.

4-7-61

Jonathan W. Daniels,
Editor

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING-
INTERNAL SECURITY
(CE 100-9548)

1 cc Bureau

100-9548-36

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The John Birch Society: Fascism Under A New Name

Huey Long once remarked that fascism would come to this country, but it would come wrapped in the Stars and Stripes, disguised as a savior of democracy.

The late Mr. Long should know. He himself was well acquainted with the potent impact of demagoguery. His remark, nonetheless, seems to be proving even more prophetic than he might have imagined.

The manner by which some Americans have chosen to fight communism indicates that they have a remarkable propensity for cutting off the nose to spite the face.

The John Birch Society purports to be battling communism, when in fact it is giving nurture to out-and-out fascism.

Under the patriotic guise of anti-communism, this ultra-conservative group has assimilated all the tactics of the American Nazi Party, the Ku Klux Klan, the McCarthyists, and has even stolen a march or two from the communists themselves.

Capitalizing on the weapon of silence imposed by obsessive fear and doubt, the "patriots" have set up an impressive organization covering 34 states with from 1 to 100 chapters in each—not to mention the District of Columbia.

A secret group, the society, and all like it, is a more dangerous threat to democracy than communism. The members of the society are instructed to infiltrate local community organizations in their area—the PTA, Rotary and Kiwanis Clubs, as well as church and similar organizations, under the guise of crusading against communism.

They are urged to denounce local leaders as communists, fellow travelers or communist sympathizers. Those who speak out against the society and its operations are labeled red. Clandestine meetings, anonymous phone calls, character assassination and similar tactics are standard procedure.

Everything is conducted under the name of patriotism and preservation of the American way.

The ascendancy of the Birch Society, although alarming in itself, is equally frightening viewed as a symptom of a larger disease. It is an outgrowth of a greater and more pervasive complex of tendencies.

Extremism such as the Birch Society results when fear, doubt and insecurity are allowed to dominate common sense. The aura of tension, distrust and hatred that

DAILY TAR HEEL
Chapel Hill, N. C.
4-7-61

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spawned the McCarthyism of the fifties is finding new disciples now at the beginning of the sixties. Action and reaction have outrun reason.

Extremism either to the right or the left is a danger that cannot be ignored—the tendency toward this extremism is obviously present in many areas of the American scene.

Groups like the Birch Society are exhibit "A" that far too many Americans are willing to ally themselves to a cause, any cause so long as it is extreme.

We understand that a member of the Birch Society is to be found here at Carolina. This would indicate that the dangers of such groups are a little closer to home than the average student might imagine.

* * *

The tactics of the Birch Society and similar groups are varied and diverse. All, however, have one basic ingredient—the element of fear.

People who are afraid can be manipulated. The late Senator McCarthy proved that basic tenet for demagoguery beyond a doubt.

Robert Welch, founder of the Society, has capitalized on the effects of this fear and resulting confusion. Civic organizations and churches have been infiltrated already by members of the society, who attend the meetings of these organizations solely for the purpose of branding ministers, civic leaders and others as communists.

This process is all according to the general plan outlined by Welch.

It is designed to make Americans afraid of each other, and reluctant to speak out for fear that they might be branded.

So pressing has the problem of such groups become that the attorney general of the state of California has ordered an investigation of right-wing fanatic organizations.

He has outlined six tests which will allow persons to identify extremist groups and to steer clear of any affiliation with them.

1. Does the organization attack churches and schools with blanket accusations?
2. Does it attack other traditional American institutions with wild, unsupported charges?
3. Does it label everyone with whom it disagrees politically as un-American or subversive?
4. Does it try to rewrite modern history by blaming American statesmen for wars, communism, depression and other world ills?
5. Does it resort to crude pressure tactics such as anonymous phone calls or letter-writing?
6. Do the spokesmen of the group appear more interested in the size of their money collections than in the principles they purport to espouse?

It seems to us that the application of these tests is a sensible and effective means of checking the aims of an organization before becoming involved with it.

Fighting the communist ideology calls for concrete, sensible approaches, not blind reaction to fear which results in more menacing propaganda.

The Daily Tar Heel

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The DAILY TAR HEEL is published daily except Monday, examination periods and vacations. It is entered as second-class matter in the post office at Chapel Hill, N. C., pursuant with the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates: \$4 per semester, \$7 per year.

The DAILY TAR HEEL is a subscriber to the United Press International and utilizes the services of the News Bureau of the University of North Carolina.

Published by the Colonial Press
Chapel Hill, N. C.

Sanford Doesn't 'Think Much' Of The John Birch Society

Observer Raleigh Bureau

RALEIGH — Gov. Terry Sanford turned thumbs down on the John Birch Society Monday.

"I don't think much of it," Sanford said in answer to a conference.

"I don't like secret societies with high sounding names and purposes," the governor said, adding that the way to settle issues is by "free and open discussions."

Sanford declined to knock the Birch Society's goals. But he made it clear he does not like its methods.

"I don't know enough about the internal workings (of the society) to comment on their aims," he said. But no matter how good an organization's purposes are, he added, they don't accomplish much by meeting secretly.

Sanford repeated his confidence that the General Assembly will approve his school enrichment program, and he endorsed a pending minimum wage bill.

But he indicated that he is prepared to hedge his bet on the question of submitting the people a referendum on the question of continued public support of the tax measures to support the school program beyond 1963.

"In my opinion the General Assembly is going to

adopt substantially the Board of Education's program, and I'm confident too that the General Assembly is going to find the means of financing the program," he said.

When he introduced his school program, Sanford suggested that the legislature get the money to support it by eliminating all exemptions to the three per cent sales tax—including food and drugs.

Monday he said if the legislature does not call for the program beyond 1963 "we'll find another means of carry-

ing the education program to the people."

Sanford did not elaborate on what kind of program he has in mind.

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-11-61

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING-
INTERNAL SECURITY
(CE 100-9548)

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SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FBI - CHARLOTTE	

April 7, 1961

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
Ninth St. and Penn. Ave.
Washington, D. C.
Attn. Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Dear Sir.

For the last several weeks the newspapers have been talking a lot about the John Birch Society, and I would like to tell you what I know about this organization. Several months ago a friend of mine ask me to attend a meeting of the John Birch Society which operates on a pretext of fighting Communism and Socialism. At the Meeting they showed us a film that lasted for two hours, of Mr. Robert Welch standing at a rostrum delivering a speech against Communism. The Entire film is Mr. Welch delivering this speech, nothing else is shown on the film. I looked at this man's face for two hours, and I remember a face pretty good. The newspaper clipping attached showing the profile of Mr. Welch is not the same man that was shown on the film, who was suppose to be Mr. Welch. I noticed he gave them a profile picture rather than front. Of course I could be wrong, but if you send me a picture of his whole face I can say positive if they are the same man.

At any rate my personal opinion of this organization is that Mr. Welch is a very good, cunning, clever LIAR, and is using the communist principals to obtain his objectives. Which are very simple when you stop to analyze them.

First they try to organize as many cells of 20 to a group in each town throughout the U. S. If a cell gets larger than 20 they split it into two cells. This has two purposes, one leader can direct the activitys of 20 better than he could a large group, and if any members smells a communist and breaks up the cell they have only lost one cell. They start off by telling you a lie to get you to come to the meeting and join. They tell you that this organization has been cheaked and approved by the FBI. At the meeting they show you a two hour film of Mr. Welch giving a speech against communism, to convince you that they are fighting communism. Then their regional director gives a talk on how the John Birch Society works.

Second each cell has its own reading room where they meet. They supply this reading room with what they want you to read. Dues are \$2.00 per month for men, and \$1.00 for women. Each month Mr. Welch publishes a bulletin which you buy for \$1.00 (its worth about \$.10). In this bulletin he poisons your mind with cleverly worded lies about our government leaders, and controversial issues facing our government. The purpose here is obvious, to loose faith in your government. They direct the activity of each member, telling him who to write, what to say, and when to say it. If you do not agree to do this, they will revoke your membership with no explanation given. This is so they can direct half a million letters at any politician or editor whoever Mr. Welch decides is the target. This is a very powerful tool for Mr. Welch since the pen is mightier than the sword. They will send you to hear a speaker who they decide is leaning toward communism, and give you some cleverly worded questions to ask the speaker which will embarrass him. No one receives any pay for services to the society. If you will read some of his bulletins you will find that they are loaded with dynamite.

BRANCH OFFICES AND WAREHOUSES



CHICAGO, NEWARK, HOUSTON, ATLANTA

APR 11 1961
FBI - CHARLOTTE

This society of Mr. Welches has about four objectives which he is trying to accomplish.

1. To have a large cross section of people across this country who he can tell what to write, who to write, and when to write.
2. To have 1,000,000 members which would contribute approximately \$2,000,000.00 a month. with this money they can buy information, or finance a conspiracy to infiltrate government.
3. Create desention among the people to loose faith in their government leaders, by filling his reading rooms with trash.
4. Try to create enough dissension among the people on controversial issues, that americans would fight americans, or white against black.

Basically this is what he is trying to accomplish, and he is doing this on the pretext that he is fighting Socialism and Communism.

At the meeting I ask the regional director how members would tell a communist when they saw one, since a comunist will never admit he is a communist. He said they had a reserch departement that would study a man and when they decided he was carrying communist. He said, "to a communist a Dupe is more important than a card carrying commie. One Dupe is worth ten card carrying commies. So the John Birch Society must be the Dupes.

Believe me this is no fly by night organization, and I am positive it goes a lot deeper than meets the eye. Some of our higest men in politics and business, and even preachers, lawers belong to this society.

As you know Mr. Welch is a strong supporter of Sen. Barry Goldwater the Conservative, who indorses the John Birch Society. Well several years ago it was Goldwater who exploded in the Senate when Lewis Strauss was voted out as AEC Chairman. I am attaching this article which showed that Strauss was accused of some shady operations when he was Chairman.

When I see men in high Government offices indorseng Societys like Mr. Welch is running, then I say this country is in serious trouble.

This is not a bunch of nuts who you would classify as humorous. These are dedicated, intellegent, hard working Dupes trying to poison the minds of people. The leader of the John Birch Society locally is very active in all civic programs gives radio speeches, and writes the editors of newspapers regulary.

Here are a few questions I would like to ask some of our political leaders who indorse this Mr. Welch.

1. How much information could you buy in Washington for \$2,000,000.00 per month?
2. If one Congressman got 100,000 letters from all over the country do you think it would influence his voting on important issues?
3. If an editor got 10,000 about a certain person do you think the editor would write a story about him.
4. Mr. Welch advises all members to take over PTA's, Civic Clubs, become very active in politics. Do you think any damage could be done to this country in these organizations?

If any one in the Justice Dept. thinks these are a bunch of humorous crack pots then I say we had better revise our way of thinking and start thinking like
CHICAGO, NEWARK, HOUSTON, ATLANTA
COMMUNIST.
Yours truly



MEMBER

BRANCH OFFICES AND WAREHOUSES

April 13, 1961

[redacted]
Greenwood, South Carolina

Dear [redacted]

I have received your letter of April 7, 1961,
with enclosures.

As strictly an investigative agency of the
Federal Government, the FBI does not furnish evaluations or
comments regarding the character or integrity of any
individual, publication or organization. From this I hope you
will not infer either that we do or do not have information in
our files concerning the subject of your letter.

Your thoughtfulness in writing me is indeed
appreciated. In the event you have any information which you
feel will be of interest to the FBI, please do not hesitate to call
upon Mr. Donald E. Roney, Special Agent in Charge of our
Charlotte Office, 1700 Johnston Building, Charlotte 2, North Carolina,
or me.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

① - Charlotte - Enclosure

See Attached Search Slip

100 - 9548 - 40

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Date

4/14/61

TO: CHIEF CLERK

Subject

Aliases

Address

Birth Date

Birthplace

Race

Sex

☐ Male

☐ Female

☐

Exact Spelling

☐

All References

☐

Main Subversive Case Files Only

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Subversive References Only

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Main Criminal Case Files Only

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Criminal References Only

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Main Subversive (If no Main, list all Subversive References)

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Main Criminal (If no Main, list all Criminal References)

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Restrict to Locality of

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Remarks

File & Serial Number

Remarks

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Greenwood, SC

employed by

Has written in about [redacted] of Charlotte Motor Speedway
and another time about the John Birch Society.

Identical

Requested by

Squad

Extension

File No.

Searched by

(date)

Consolidated by

(date)

Reviewed by

4-14-61
(date)

EVI

File Review Symbols

I - Identical
NI - Not identical

? - Not identifiable
U - Unavailable reference

People's Platform

Character Assassination

Monroe
Editors, The News:

Your one thousand eight hundred word editorial of last Saturday, fatuously called "a book review" was anything but. Mr. Ed Yoder, the alleged author of this editorial did a remarkable job of attempted character assassination. I do hope his talents are properly appreciated by the directors in the ivory tower.

Your Mr. Yoder's tactics are the same, only somewhat more clever and insidious, than those which he accuses Mr. Welch of using. Here are the "guardians of the fourth estate", knowing full well that a disturbing percentage of the people accept as fact what they read in the paper, open up on the conservative, patriotic American with the sawed-off scattergun of the slanted view, distorted half-truths and intimidation by insinuation.

My congratulations to your Mr. Yoder. He did a magnificent job of slaughtering the truth, a much better job than your Mr. Scheer did the other day.

Frankly, Mr. Editor, I have never seen such unique talent, all located in one building on South Tryon.

Now if you were really interested in warning southerners of the menace of the John Birch Society, you would as guardians of the fourth estate, be interested in seeing the people make up their own minds as to whether the Society did or did not make sense. You must admit that your Mr. Yoder definitely presented his own biased views of the John Birch Society after scanning the Society's Blue Book. Obviously everyone should have an equal opportunity to do the same.

Therefore I would like to offer you a challenge, which I'm sure you'll accept in the proper spirit.

Since the great majority of your readers haven't had the

opportunity to review the Society's Blue Book, I challenge you to further the cause of truth by doing two of the following three things:

(1) Buy a large number of the Blue Books and distribute them free to libraries in the area in which your paper is distributed.

(2) Advertise prominently in your paper for one week, at no cost to the Society, where one may purchase the Blue Book and cost of it.

(3) Negotiate with the Society for rights to publicly sell, at a profit, the Blue Book in your area AND actively promote same if your negotiations are successful.

This would be a laudable effort on your part and I'm certain would be approved by the great majority of your subscribers as well as that minority of right wing, conservative Americans, who believe passionately in the basic principles of the Society though perhaps not personally acquainted with the John Birch Society.

After completing these stipulations and after a six month trial period, I further suggest that you query a large number of those who have digested the contents of the Blue Book. If, after doing this, at least 80 per cent of those queried are not enthusiastic endorsers of the Society's basic motives, principles and goals, then I will, in full view of your editorial staff, eat your Mr. Yoder's one thousand eight hundred word "book review" without benefit of condiments. Then if, in your opinion, this be not enough penance for a right-winger, I shall buy a copy of Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto and deliver to you my very own one thousand eight hundred word book review on the man and his motives.

—MARTIN HUNTLEY

CHARLOTTE NEWS
Charlotte, N. C.
4-13-61

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It'll Be A Long, Long Investigation

Robert Welch, high muckety-muck of the John Birch Society, came out into the open this week in Los Angeles. Before a capacity crowd of 6,000 in an auditorium there, he made his first real public pronouncement about the nature of the Communist menace as he sees it; and it was not a comforting one.

According to Mr. Welch, "only" about 7,000 of the 200,000 Protestant ministers in the U. S. are "Communists or sympathizers with Communist purposes." The other 97 per cent suffer only from the "gullibility and apathy with which Americans as a whole are afflicted."

Mr. Welch went on, having thus disposed of the Protestant clergy, to explain that the real Communist threat is not from without but from within.

Welch "according to one bulletin," said

the strength of the Communist conspiracy lies in the higher 'social, economic, political and educational circles of our country . . . I can find you a lot more Harvard accents in Communist circles in America than you can find me overalls."

After Mr. Welch's speech, we cannot understand why he wants the UnAmerican Activities Committee to waste its time with his John Birch Society. Clearly, if it is to believe Mr. Welch, it should get down to the task of investigating those 7,000 clergymen, the higher "social, economic, political and educational circles," and all the people with "Harvard accents"—whatever they are. By the end, we calculate it'll be roughly the 22nd century and our great-great-great-great-great grandchildren can arrive at a plan of anti-Communist action.

The Charlotte News
Charlotte, N. C.
4-14-61

Brodie S. Griffith, Editor

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
—
INFORMATION CONCERNING—
INTERNAL SECURITY
(CE 100-9548)

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

b6
b7C*Memorandum*

TO : SAC (100-9548)

DATE: 4/18/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
INTERNAL SECURITY

On 4/14/61, [REDACTED] telephonically contacted this office and advised that ~~she~~ had recently been contacted by a group of people regarding the John Birch Society. She stated that she had noted a great deal of newspaper comment recently regarding this Society and wanted to know if the FBI had investigated this Society and was in approval with its aims and purposes. She further stated that these individuals stated that the John Birch Society was an anti-Communist organization and had a list of Communists, which list had been confirmed by the FBI.

[REDACTED] was advised that the records of the FBI are confidential and that any information regarding Communists or Communist activities should be furnished to the FBI for investigation inasmuch as the FBI has the responsibility of investigation of security matters in the United States.

KSM:mhs
(2) *mhs*

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The Gallup Poll

POLL SHOWS SOCIETY DISLIKED Majority Nixes Birch Group

By GEORGE GALLUP
American Institute of Public Opinion

PRINCETON, N. J. — During the brief span of time in which the controversial John Birch Society has been in the headlines, an extraordinary number of Americans have become aware of its existence.

The initial impression formed by most of those interviewed in a nationwide survey who have reached some conclusion about the organization is an unfavorable one — ranging from the view that the John Birch Society is "dangerous" and should be curbed to the feeling that the members are "publicity seekers" whose actions are "best ignored."

Based upon survey results, an estimated 39 million adults — or nearly four in ten out of the total civilian adult population — have thus far heard of the ultra-conservative society which first was in the news in early March of this year.

Many of these persons, of course, have as yet only sketchy information about the organization. But among those who have reached some conclusion about the John Birch group, unfavorable reactions far outweigh favorable views.

In the first national measurement of the public's awareness of the Society, the Gallup Poll assigned its reporters to ask this question of a representative sample of U. S. adults: "Have you ever heard or read of the John Birch Society?"

	%	Est. Millions
Yes, have heard	37	39,000,000
No, have not	63	67,000,000

All those who said they had heard of the organization were then asked what they thought about it. Analysis of these replies turns up some interesting aspects of the public's initial reaction to news of the John Birch Society.

A number of persons, for example, say they think the organization — whose avowed aim is to fight Communism — is "too radical."

A few persons, ironically, say they feel the John Birch group may be actually Communist-inspired or "dominated by Communists."

From another point of view, what people do NOT say about the Society is as interesting as what they do say.

Thus, despite the John Birch Society's ultra-conservative goals, very few associate the

group with the right-wing of the Republican party or any of its leaders, past or present.

Other persons resent the charges — attributed to Robert Welch, founder of the Society — that former President Eisenhower was, as one voter put it, "a card-carrying Communist."

Over-all, the unfavorable reactions varied widely as the following sample of comments reveals:

"Just trying to stir up trouble" . . . "they're too radical" . . . "there's the possibility of their being Communist-inspired — they should be watched" . . . "It's a fascist organization and it's terrible" . . . "I'd like to know where they get ideas about Ike" . . . "I don't think much of it; they're stirring up a lot of stink" . . . "as ridiculous as George Rockwell and his Nazi party" . . . "It's just a bunch of foolishness" . . . "It's something to be ignored" . . . "It's just the bunk — silly."

For those who offer favorable opinions of the John Birch Society, it is chiefly a case of endorsing any group which is anti-Communist.

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-21-61

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Here are some typical favorable reactions:

"Any society against communism is good" . . . "I'm in favor — it's patriotic" . . . "trying to combat communism and its aims are honest" . . . "any movement against communism is of merit" . . . "trying to do what they think is best for the U.S."

Today's survey is based on views obtained in personal interviews with 1,558 adults in 156 sampling areas across the country.

The design of the sample was that of a probability sample down to the block level in urban areas and to segments of

townships in rural areas.

Individual respondents within the areas were selected by interviewers who were required to follow a prescribed procedure.

Birch Head Preaches: 'Spread Bad News'

before a group of 11 men in Indianapolis and said:

"Throughout all history, the bearer of bad news has been a most unpopular person . . . I am now spending my whole life spreading bad news, every day, everywhere I can."

The next day Welch led the others in founding the John Birch Society — a group

Since 1958, Welch says he has found many people to help him "spread bad news."

★ ★ ★

In a copyright interview with Houston (Tex.) Chronicle reporter Saul Friedman, Welch said recently "We have only two things we won't tell you . . . how many members we have . . . and who they are."

tion in the candy manufacturing business was granting his first interview with the press since the Birch Society entered the public arena of controversy last December.

He seemed to back away slightly from the vigorous anti-Communist assault he fuels in American Opinion, a Birch Society

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JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
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ciety magazine he edits, and publishes and books he has written including "The Life of John Birch" and "The Blue Book of the John Birch Society."

★ ★ ★

"The Blue Book" — often called the Bible of the Birch Society — said, "Unless we can reverse forces which now seem inexorable in their movement, you have only a few more years before the coun-

try in which you live will become four separate provinces in a worldwide communist dominion ruled by police - state methods from the Kremlin."

Then he charged, "Scores of known Communist-sympathizers have been restored by their former jobs within our federal government.

"Communist sympathies and even actual Communist sub-

version are daily made more respectable by the actions of our government, our great universities, much of our press and by the complacency of our people."

In the recent interview, he said, "I'm quite certain that more than 93 per cent of all of our federal employees are loyal Americans . . . But we can't go around all the time saying 'this man's not a Communist. . . .'"

AGAINST LIBERALISM

Birch Society Aims Cited

RUTHERFORDTON — "The liberal viewpoint has had a free run of this country for more than 50 years," the former leader of Rutherford County's John Birch Society Chapter says.

"The only reason I devote so much time and energy to the society is that I think the conservative viewpoint needs a forum," says Nat Hamrick, who was the first chapter leader for the group here.

"No, we don't expect the country to undergo a complete revolution due to our efforts. But we feel that we can neutralize the free-wheeling liberal propaganda that strongly influences our lawmakers and other governing officials."

Hamrick is a husky, energetic lawyer in the county. He has the robust enthusiasm of a William Jennings Bryan. He talks of society with much eagerness. He sees it with selective viewpoint.

"I don't support everything the society does or says. As a matter of fact, I often disagree with Robert Welch," he says.

Welch is the founder of the John Birch Society. He has encountered much recent criticism nationally with his attacks on former President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren. Welch has called both Communists or Communist sympathizers.

Hamrick says these accusations are "silly."

"Our major functions," Hamrick says, "are to combat the liberal viewpoint with facts about the other side of the coin by writing our congressmen, helping authors of conservative-oriented books get them published and distributed and do research on subjects where public information is scarce."

He says the society is active in all of these areas: letter writing, book publishing and research. Monthly publications from the society tell each member what books to read, where to write letters and what to say in the letters.

"One of the big assets of the society is that it selects its members. All of our members here are people we think are intelligent, interested in government and leaders in the community," he said.

Hamrick would not name any of the 33 members of this county chapter. Neither would George Schaffert, the present chapter leader.

Schaffert, chief engineer at Stonecutter Mills in Spindale, says, "If I gave you their names, it would be infringing on their privacy, and that's one of the aims of the society. We have less government and more individual

freedom and privacy."

Members of the chapter who have mentioned their connection with the society in letters to The Observer include;

A. G. Heihnson Jr., owner of Spindale Mills in Spindale. Heihnson's brother, Douglas Heihnson Jr., was recently in Charlotte and other cities in North Carolina to help organize society chapters.

He is the Birch Society organizer for southern states. Their father, A. G. Heihnson, owns Sevierville Mills in Sevierville, Tenn., and is a member of the national Birch Society council.

— Charles H. Reynolds, official at Spindale Mills. He is a former state senator who is now on the State Board of Higher Education.

Few women's names have been mentioned as belonging to the local chapter. "There are a few women," chapter leader Schaffert says. "But they have trouble being good members."

He quickly adds, "That's a generalization, of course, but our experience is that most women don't enjoy writing the letters to congressmen and newspapers, and they find the necessary reading hard."

"However, they, like we men in the society, recognize the dangers of communism and realize they are certainly real."

What kind of "necessary" reading and writing is required?

Schaffert says, "Well, really there is not that much discipline."

Good members recognize the necessity of doing these things.

No one is forced to do any of these things. There is no more discipline in the chapter than can be found in an average club.

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.

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'... Leave Us Alone ...'

RUTHERFORDTON — An Observer reporter was asked to leave Rutherford County last week while he was interviewing members of the local chapter of the John Birch Society and residents of the county who oppose the society.

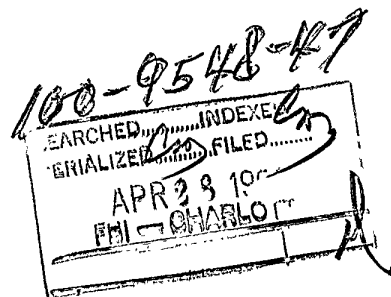
While reporter John Ginn was walking in front of the Rutherford County Courthouse, an unidentified man driving a blue sedan shouted, "Why don't you leave us alone? Get out of here and quit bothering the Birch-ers."

The car drove away. The reporter did not see the man again.

The reporter spent two days trying to find the facts in the struggle in the county between society members and some anti-society residents.

CHARLOTTE O-SERVER
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SOCIETY INVADES RUTHERFORD

'Lay Off Birchers Or Else,' Mr. X Says He Was Warned

By JOHN GINN
Observer Staff Writer

RUTHERFORDTON — "The John Birch Society is rapidly taking over the government of this county," a prominent Rutherford County resident charges.

His accusation is among several which have gurgled to the surface in a year-old, tight-lipped struggle in Rutherford County.

Members of the society's chapter label such charges as "ridiculous." They contend the society exists merely as a means of airing and advancing the conservative point of view.

And so it goes. The two gnashing factions exchange accusations and denials, but little evidence. Efforts to separate the facts from the biased theories of what is happening in this hilly, textile county met a tough shield of "no comment."

That shield was punctured only occasionally during about a week of inquiry. Some say they are afraid to talk; others contend there is nothing to talk about.

Anonymity Asked

And even the prominent bearer of the "government infiltration" accusation speaks only with a guarantee of anonymity.

"My name must not be used publicly," he says. "If I openly charged the society with half of the things I know about, my family and I would be in a lot of danger. I once tried to do this stuff to a group of people that I thought were my friends.

"The next week I got calls almost every night from people who would not identify themselves. They called about 2 or 3 o'clock in the morning to say something like 'lay off the Birchers or else.'"

Others in the county who bear accusations against the society offer them with more hesitancy than Mr. X but without anonymity.

County Commissioner Joe Biggerstaff of Cliffside said, "The society has come before the commissioners and asked all of us to join the local chapter. Then, when all of us didn't accept, the society went to work on us individually. Several representatives of the society have called on me at home and given me a pressured sales talk.

"I'm sure at least two commissioners have joined the society," he added.

Banker Hesitant

William Stallings, vice president of the Spindale branch of the Union Trust Co., was reportedly dismissed from the county library board so a member of the society could replace him.

When asked if this was true, the round-faced banker produced a hesitant smile and this explanation:

"I can't afford to get myself in trouble. All I can say is that the board has a rule that when a member misses three meetings he is got off automatically. I don't know so I'm off. I don't care any more."

A. Jervis Arledge, county attorney, watched Stallings with a knowing smile. The lanky lawyer said, "I've promised Bill (Stallings) that I wouldn't say anything about this for his sake."

Mr. X offered another explanation. He said the library board's rule says that if a member misses four consecutive meetings, he is removed.

Then the local library board in the city which the displaced board member represented nominates a successor, he said. (In Stallings' case, this would be the Spindale Library Board.)

That nomination then must be approved by the county board he said, and the county commissioners make the appointment.

Procedure Confirmed

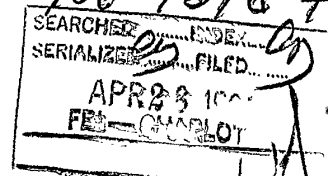
Max Reger, president of the county library board when Stallings was removed, confirmed this procedure.

He said, "Stallings missed five meetings—one more than the rule allows—and somebody — I

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
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A SPECIAL REPORT

Robert Welch and the John Birch Society he founded and leads have figured repeatedly in the news of recent months.



Ginn

The Observer assigned John Ginn to spend several days investigating what the society seeks to do and how it operates in Rutherford.

Here is his report on this page.

As it published these news accounts, The Observer began to receive a number of letters from Birch Society admirers. Many were critical of The Observer and the press in general, contending an incomplete picture of the society has been presented.

Many of these letters bore Rutherford County postmarks. There were other indications that a Birch society was extremely active in that County.

think it was me—made a motion that he be removed. The motion passed. I don't remember the vote."

Reger said the action was taken at the board's November, 1960, meeting. However, the minutes for the November meeting indicated only that Reger said Stallings should be warned about being absent from meetings.

Why did Stallings miss the meetings?

When asked that question, Stallings said, "Well, ah, there aren't any hard feelings about these things. I just had too

many irons in the fire. Yes, that's it. I had too much to do and couldn't always attend the library meetings."

That's the explanation given also by Mrs. E. E. Barr, county librarian, and several people who said they are members of the Birch Society or praised members of the society and their work. Mrs. Barr said, "The society has some fine men in it." She did not say if she belonged.

But Mr. X said he had been told, "by someone who ought to know," that Stallings was warned "he had better not attend those meetings and if he

did there would be

Reger called this idea "foolish." He said, "We have that rule because we often have trouble getting a quorum. Stallings' failure to attend made it hard to get a quorum, so he was removed."

Two Undisputed Facts

Through the charges and denials came two undisputed facts: Stallings was removed from the library board, and he was replaced by L. Glenn Dick, an active member of the Birch Society.

Dick said, "I'm proud to be a member of the society. But there is no connection between me being on the library board and belonging to the Birch Society. Being on the library board is of little importance, as far as I'm concerned.

"As a matter of fact, I've told very, very few people that I've been put on the library board. These people who are against the society have a right to their opinion, but they had better justify their accusations before they say anything."

In a letter to The Observer, Dick said, "It appears to me that you need more evidence than you have presented before you try to destroy an organization.

"I would ask, is there a good, clean way to fight this thing?

See BRIDGE, 17A



LEGEND: Pictured are some of the publications telling the Birch Society that...

Birchers Invade Rutherford

Continued from 12A

What would you advise us to do, hide our heads in the sand and hope the Communists won't be too hard on us when they take over the country?

"Communism is our deadly enemy, and if the American people do not awaken to this danger, it is going to be too late.

"If you want to be of service to your readers and our country, give your support to the John Birch Society."

Other Birchers?

Mr. X says Dick is not the only member of the Birch Society on the 10-member library board.

"I understand at least five other board members are Birchers," he says. "The society has a majority now and is already putting some of its books in the libraries throughout the county."

County librarian Mrs. Barr said, "Yes, we have some books published and supported by the Birch Society. We need to have all types of opinions represented

in the library."

She pointed out, however, that no books that opposed the ideas of the Birch Society have been removed from the shelves.

Mr. X says there are four members of the library board who he definitely knows are not members of the society: Mrs. Worth Morgan of Forest City, Mrs. John King of Caroleen, Bill Jenkins and Mrs. Grace Wall, both of Cliffside.

The other members of the board are John Ryland of Union Mills, Mrs. Harry Hendrick of Rutherfordton, Max Padgett of Spindale, Reger of Rutherfordton, Thomas Roberts of Forest City and Dick of Spindale. Dick was the only one of these contacted who would say whether he belongs to the society.

He says he knows three county commissioners are not members of the society: Elgerstaff, J. B. Davis of Lake Lure and Board Chairman Spencer D. Gamble of Sunshine.

The other commissioners are Jim Byers of Forest City and Charles Simpson of Rutherfordton. Byers said he is sympathetic with the society. Simpson could not be reached for comment.

Another respected member of the society's local chapter is Charles H. Reynolds, former state senator from Spindale who is now on the State Board of Higher Education.

There are other prominent people active on both sides of this controversy. The feelings between the members of the society and those who oppose it are intense.

But the detailed facts of just what the Birch Society has or has not done in Rutherford County are blurred by conflicting, unspecific comments from both sides.

Society members say the group's activities are "none of your business," but they are "not secret." Those who are against the society will not detail their accusations because "we are afraid of what will happen."

SPECIAL MEETING HELD

Board Denies Pressure By Birchers

RUTHERFORDTON. — The Rutherford County Library Board denied reports Monday that any pressure had been exerted on it in the removal of a board member who was replaced by a member of the John Birch Society. The board called a special meeting Monday night and adopted a resolution which defended its removal of William Stallings from the board and praised Glenn Dick, Birch Society member, who replaced Stallings.

The resolution was in answer to charges aired in the county that the Birch Society had rigged the removal of Stallings. The charges were repeated in an Observer story Sunday.

Seven of the 10 members of the board and Mrs. E. E. Barr, county librarian, were present at

the meeting where the resolution was adopted. It said:

"Mr. Stallings was appointed a trustee May 10, 1959, by the Rutherford County Commissioners after being approved by the Rutherford County Library Board of Trustees.

"This duty was accepted by Mr. Stallings with great reluctance because he felt he was already overburdened by the civic responsibilities outside his full-time profession (vice president of the Spindale branch of the Union Trust Co.).

"Time proved Mr. Stallings' estimate correct because it became increasingly difficult for him to attend regular meetings. In order to avoid further embarrassment to both Mr. Stallings and the board of trustees, the board, acting upon the resolution passed in 1957,

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-25-61

100 - John Birch
Society

100-9548-50

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 26 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

relieved Mr. Stallings of his position Dec. 6, 1961."

(The above resolution states that if a member misses four consecutive meetings, his appointment as trustee is forfeited. Mr. Stallings was absent five consecutive meetings.)

The resolution then says Dick was appointed through the same prescribed procedure it described for Stallings' appointment.

It then adds, "Mr. Dick's appointment was welcomed by the Rutherford County Library Board of Trustees as his reputation as an active civic worker is evident from his past experience."

"The board" refuted the inference that any pressure has been or is now being exerted to remove any of its members from the board."

The charges of interference referred to in the Observer story came from a prominent resident of the county who insisted he remain anonymous because he said he had been harrassed after criticizing the Birch Society previously.

The library board also said it puts material upon its shelves "which, however controversial, is factual, informative and of public interest."

This was in reference to Mrs. Barr's statement which said Birch society literature was being placed in the library.

Those adopting the resolution were John Ryland, chairman; Mrs. J. W. Morgan; Max E. Padgett; Dick; William Jenkins;

Mrs. Harry Hendrick and Max Reger.

The man who charged that the society was instrumental in Stallings' removal said several other members of the library board are society members. He said he knew these board members are not in the society: Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. John King, Jenkins and Mrs. Grace Wall.

Reger told The Observer Monday that he "is not and never will be a member of that society." Mrs. Hendrick's husband contacted The Observer to say, "Please say in your paper that my wife was not asked if she is a member. If you want to know, come on down here and I'll tell you."

Banker Denies Report

By JOHN GINN
Observer Staff Writer

RUTHERFORDTON — A Rutherford County banker Monday denied a report that he was threatened by the county chapter of the John Birch Society before he was removed from the County Library Board last November.

William Stallings, vice president of the Spindale branch of the Union Trust Co., reportedly was dismissed from the library board so a member of the society could replace him.

A prominent resident of the county, who insisted he remain anonymous, said Stallings had been told to miss enough board meetings to be dismissed under a board rule. (A member is dismissed when he misses four meetings.) He said members of the Birch Society had threatened Stallings.

But Stallings, who said he was dismissed under the absentee rule, said Monday, "I was not threatened. I don't care anything about the library board. The Birch Society is not in this."

About two weeks ago Stallings told an Observer reporter, "I can't afford to get myself in trouble. All I can say is that the board has a rule that when a member misses three (sic) meetings he is put off automatically. I missed three, so I'm off. I don't dare say anything more."

Monday Stallings protested that he had not said "dare."
"The word I used was 'care,'" he said.

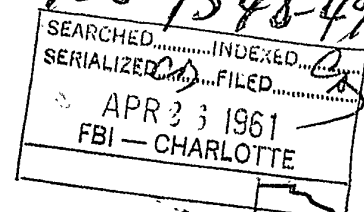
A Sunday Observer story said Stallings had "produced a hesitant smile" when asked why he was removed from the board.

He said Monday that he was hesitant "because I was caught off guard." He insisted, "I am not afraid of anything or anybody."

When Stallings was dismissed from the library board, Glenn L. Dick, an active member of the John Birch Society replaced him.

Dick said, "There is no connection between me being on the library board and belonging to the Birch Society. Being on the library board is of little importance, as far as I'm concerned."

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-25-61



The Greensboro Record

Established 1890

C. O. JEFFRESS, General Manager

FLOYD F. HENDLEY, Managing Editor

COLVIN T. LEONARD, Editor

Call Names

The founder of the right wing John Birch Society has again repeated his charge that Communists have infiltrated the Protestant clergy of the United States.

In a copyrighted speech in Louisiana the other night, Robert Welch asserted that "the largest single body of Communists in America is in our Protestant clergy." The speech dealt with what Welch called the "principle of reversal" being used by the Communists. He said this was the situation "because that is almost the last place the ordinary American would expect to find them." Then, Welch asserted that "Protestant ministers do not become Communists but Communists become Protestant ministers."

If Welch knows the "the largest single body of Communists in America is in our Protestant clergy," it is reasonable to assume that he knows who some of them are. That being the case, he should call names instead of casting suspicion on the clergy as whole. Certainly, if the clergy has been infiltrated or is even in danger of being infiltrated, the public should be informed by calling names. Let Welch call names, and stop smearing the entire Protestant clergy.

The implication of the Welch accusation is that the Protestant clergy is being used as a cover-up for Communist

GREENSBORO RECORD
Greensboro, N. C.
4-25-61

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JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING-
INTERNAL SECURITY

CE file 100-9548

100-9548-51
HED.....INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....FILED.....

APR 28
FBI - CHARLOTTE

DIRECTOR, FBI

4/29/61

SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
INTERNAL SECURITY

594
There are enclosed articles which appeared in the "Charlotte Observer," 4/23/61 concerning a chapter of the John Birch Society which is now active in Rutherford County, N. C., under present leadership of GEORGE SCHAFER.

No investigation has been made with reference to this chapter in accordance with existing Bureau instructions.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 3) (RM)
2 - Charlotte (100-9548)

JEZ:mhs

(4)

mhs

SEARCHED _____ INDEXED *ay*
SERIALIZED *ay* FILED _____

*only review this
and news clippings*

100-9548-52

THE OBSERVER FORUM

Do We Mean What We Sing?

Letters to The Observer Forum are welcomed. Readers are always interested in the comment of other readers. Letters should be brief. The writer's name and address must be given.

sinister Birch Society. Culminating the past several months' subjection of this organization to an increasing tempo of Communist-technique villification and ridicule, your expose fell absurdly short of portraying an over-due reaction to our chaotic scramble toward marxism.

J. B. STEWART

Bessemer City

The John Birches And The Three Bears

IN REGARD to the dagger fantasy concerning the John Birch Society in Rutherford county, I have one comment to make: Now tell me the one about the three bears.

J. G. CALLAHAN

Rutherfordton.

There Are Other Ways To Learn

ALTHOUGH I am not a member myself, I know more about the functions of Birchites simply by osmosis than Reporter Ginn evidently learned after a week of so-called intensive investigation.

JAMES T. TANNER

Rutherfordton

Did 'Mr. X' Read Too Much Fiction

I BELIEVE that your reporter, John Ginn, was completely taken in by the mysterious Mr. X, who I believe, has been reading too many detective stories lately, and is guilty of the same type of smear tactics and innuendo for which your paper has been condemning the John Birch Society for the past two months.

MRS. ERNEST H. YELTON
Rutherfordton

Birch Story Like 'Womanless Wedding'

IN YOUR ARTICLE (which had all the amusing qualities of Rutherfordton's past womanless wedding) you stated that Mr. Stallings was relieved of his duties as a member of the County Library Board because he missed more meetings than allowed.

Does that mean that I might continue to receive the Charlotte Observer if I forgot to pay for my subscription?

JAMES A. CALLAHAN
Rutherfordton.

The Birch Stories Fell Too Short

I READ with amused disappointment your expose of the

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-29-61

100 - John
Birch Society

100-9548-53

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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APR 1 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

Press Told, Don't Dignify Birch Group

ASHEVILLE — (AP) — America's free press is competent to handle the problem of the John Birch Society without resorting to governmental pressures, a leader in reform Judaism said here Saturday night.

Rabbi Jay H. Kaufman, vice president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, speaking at a convention of the Mid-Atlantic Council of the UAHC and its auxiliary, District 8 of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, urged Americans not to dignify the Birch group by seeking the aid of governmental agencies in exposing the "fanaticism and irrationality" which flow from the group.

Rabbi Kaufman objected to any proposal that the attorney general or other government agency conduct an investigation to determine whether the John Birch Society should be placed on the attorney general's list of another black list.

"We do not require any list or any House committee on un-American activities to resort to governmental repression in order to deal with this problem," he said.

Both the House committee and the attorney general's list have "raised, in the minds of many of us devoted to civil liberties, some grave questions about their own impact on free speech and free association in this country," the Rabbi said.

While there is no evidence that the society is "dabbling in antisemitism," Rabbi Kaufman said, Jews are acutely aware from history and the American experience with McCarthyism that "when hysteria and fanaticism are injected into the body politic all the democratic institutions which safeguard the security of Jews and all other Americans are placed in peril."

"If times were not so serious, we could sit back and laugh at the spectacle of the society seeking to pin the Communist label on such 'dangerous radicals' as Dwight Eisenhower, Allen Dulles, and John Kennedy; and declaring war on such 'revolutionary enterprises' as fluoridation of water, the United Nations, foreign aid and mental health," Rabbi Kaufman said.

CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
4-30-61

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100 - John Birch
Society

100 - 9548-54

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 - 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

WELCH WILL
Visit UNC,
Greensboro

Robert Welch, head of the John Birch Society, will be in North Carolina the week of May 23.

Welch will attend the reunion of the University of North Carolina's class of 1916 in Chapel Hill, and then will speak in Greensboro.

A native of Chowan County, Welch graduated from UNC at the age of 16. From there he went to Annapolis, where he attended the U. S. Naval Academy, and then attended Harvard Law School.

He will address the Greensboro Civitan Club June 2 at the King Cotton Hotel.




CHARLOTTE OBSERVER
Charlotte, N. C.
5-5-61

1-Bu-8-61
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jpc

RE: JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFORMATION CONCERNING -
INTERNAL SECURITY
CE FILE 100-9548

100-9548-55
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MAY 11 1961
FBI - CHARLOTTE

Cover Sheet for Informant Report or Material
FD-306 (3-21-58)

Date received	Received from (name or symbol number)	Received by	b2
			b6
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)			b7C
			b7D

Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☒ in person ☐ by telephone ☐ by mail ☒ orally ☐ recording device ☐ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Date of Report

Dictated to Date

Transcribed 220

Authenticated
by Informant

Date(s) of activity	Activity	Remarks
12/1/2019
12/2/2019
12/3/2019
12/4/2019
12/5/2019
12/6/2019
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12/8/2019
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12/29/2019
12/30/2019
12/31/2019

Brief description of activity or material

File where original is located if not attached

Remarks:

b2
b6
b7C
b7D

Block Stamp

100-9548-56

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 19 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

May 3, 1961

[redacted]
[redacted]
of the John Birch Club of America, Inc., held a meeting on
the night of [redacted] at the regular meeting place,
an old store building located at [redacted]. Four
minutes past 8 [redacted] this meeting
was attended by [redacted] and presided over by
[redacted]

After discussion at the meeting was concerning the
taking in of new members and the following were voted on
favorably and were to be brought into the Club at a
meeting to be held on Wednesday night, May 3, 1961:

[redacted]
A vote was taken which was favorable to purchase some
literature that is supposedly put out by or published by the
John Birch Society.

[redacted] reported that [redacted]
[redacted]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] reported that one of the old film makers
of the [REDACTED] system desired to become re-employed;
however, there was no indication that any steps had been
taken at that time to re-employ the [REDACTED] system.

[REDACTED] also reported that [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

The following individuals were in attendance at
this meeting:

[REDACTED]

Date received 4/21/61	Received from (name or symbol number) [REDACTED] (PROTECT)	Received by SA [REDACTED]
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Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

☐ in person ☐ by telephone ☐ by mail ☐ orally ☐ recording device ☐ written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:

Dictated 4/24/61 to [REDACTED] Roughdraft
5/2/61 by [REDACTED]
Transcribed
Authenticated 5/10/61
by Informant

Date of Report

4/21/61

Date(s) of activity

4/16/61

Brief description of activity or material

State Meeting of the Association of South
Carolina Klans at West Columbia, South
Carolina.

File where original is located if not attached

[REDACTED]

Remarks:

CC's: 1 each:

[REDACTED]
105-469 (ASCK)
105-1009 (ABBEVILLE KLAVERN)
105-584 (CHESNEE KLAVERN)
100-JOH BIRCH SOCIETY
157-177
105-615 [REDACTED]

1-Savannah (RM)
CEL:dlc
(8)

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100-9548-57

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 19 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

April 21, 1961
Greenville, S. C.

On April 16, 1961, a State Meeting of the Association of South Carolina Klans was held at the Skyline Club, West Columbia, South Carolina.

It was estimated that there were about 100 Klansmen present representing the various Klans in South Carolina. No public roll was called as it was not known exactly which Klans were represented.

There were also four delegates from the Florida Klan present. Their primary purpose for being there was to outline a plan they said they were using in Jacksonville, Florida, to discourage integration rather than to attempt to stop it completely. The idea was to establish a front group known as "Parents for Segregated Schools" which would be staffed by people in the Klan and usually headed up by some responsible individual in the community, not connected with the Klan but sympathetic with its ideas. In this way local support can be obtained. The organization has as its purpose to be a counter organization to the NAACP. When the NAACP files a suit for integration on behalf of some citizen, Parents for Segregated Schools will file a countersuit interposing an argument against integration at that time because of existing conditions. Its purpose would be to give the organization time to learn of the identity of the people seeking integration and give them time to organize a program of harassing activities against

these persons thereby discouraging them before the court takes any action. One of the speakers from Jacksonville, Fla., said that in one case where 12 persons sought integration, through the above method, they have eventually^{b6}
^{b7C} able to discourage 10 out of 12. They did not elaborate on the methods used to discourage.

[redacted] advised that the Association of South Carolina Klans has written to the headquarters of the John Birch Society to determine how the Klan can work with them and help them. He noted that a former Exalted Cyclops of the West Columbia Klavern, was the Exalted Cyclops up until recent elections, and a member of the Grand Council of the ASCK was the one who is in touch with the Society and is interested in starting a chapter in West Columbia.

[redacted] advised that the ASCK wants many new members and has set a goal of 10,000 members. He announced that State Meetings would be scheduled for the 3rd Sunday of every even month of the year, the next meeting being scheduled for the 3rd Sunday in June. He also stated that he expected the Klan newspaper and propaganda posters ready in about a month. The posters will be sent by the National Headquarters to each Klavern for public display in their communities.

Several resolutions were passed at this meeting namely: (1) Resolved that the ASCK will request officials of the City of Charleston, S.C., to close Charleston public golf courses, rather than have them integrated, which they now are.

(3) Resolved that the Association of South Carolina Klans will endeavor to recruit more ministers into the Klan, in an effort to give it more dignity and standing in the local communities.

Several Klansmen from the Cherokee, S. C. Klavern were at the meeting. [redacted] and [redacted] of the Asheville Klavern were there.

There was some discussion concerning the new problem of integration in South Carolina Gentile Hills and what could be done to discourage this new attempt at integration.

In a private conversation with (JAW) [redacted] a member of the Grand Council and the United Cyclops of the Horry Klavern, [redacted] advised that [redacted] of the Horry County newspaper was a Klan sympathizer and was expected to become a member in the near future. He also noted [redacted] of the Myrtle Beach newspaper was also pro Klan.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6
b7C
b7D

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Charlotte, North Carolina
May 26, 1961

UNKNOWN SUBJECT; DISTRIBUTION OF
LEAFLET BEARING SWASTIKA, MYERS
PARK HIGH SCHOOL, CHARLOTTE,
NORTH CAROLINA, MAY 25, 1961
RACIAL MATTERS

On May 25, 1961, [redacted]
[redacted] Charlotte, North Carolina, appeared at
the Charlotte Federal Bureau of Investigation Office with his
son, [redacted] a student at Myers Park High
School in Charlotte. [redacted] had in his possession a leaflet,
described below, which he stated had been found on a classroom
door in Myers Park High School on May 25, 1961. Printed on the
leaflet at top and bottom was a swastika, and the leaflet
contained the following message:

BEHOLD!

BEWARE OF THE
JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY,
A SUBVERSIVE ORGAN-
IZATION WHICH
OPERATES ON THE
FALSE PRETENSE
OF BEING "ANTI-
COMMUNIST"

THEY ARE REALLY ANTI-AMERICAN, AND
INTERESTED ONLY IN BRINGING AMERICA
UNDER THE COMPLETE CONTROL OF THE
JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

JOIN THE NATIONAL SOCIALISTS
IN AN ANTI-BIRCH & ANTI-
COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN

SIEG HEIL !

8 - Bureau
6 - Charlotte (1 - 157-0)
 (1 - 100-9548)
 (1 - OSI)
 (1 - ONI)
 (2 - CIC)

GHC:nfm
(14)

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100-9548-58

[redacted] stated that two or three days earlier he had observed that a student in his class, [redacted] had in his possession what appeared to be a stencil, which had on it a swastika and the word "Behold." He said he later asked [redacted] if he prepared this leaflet and [redacted] replied that he had not.

[redacted] stated that the distribution of this leaflet upset him very much as he is a member of the John Birch Society in Charlotte and this organization is dedicated to fighting Communism.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

5/25/61

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, CHARLOTTE (157-9)

SUBJECT: Distribution of Leaflet
Warning Students, Myers Park High
School, Charlotte, N. C., 5/25/61
RACIAL MATTERS

Enclosed herewith are 2 copies of a letterhead memo
in captioned matter and 2 copies of a leaflet described therein.

Information in this memo was furnished to SA
 on 5/25/61.

No information has been received indicating a Nazi
type group has been formed in Charlotte and no investigation
is being conducted.

This memo is being disseminated locally to military
intelligence agencies.

1 - Bureau (Encls-10)
2 - Charlotte (1 - 157-9)
 (1 - 100-9548)

GMS:msh
(5)

100-9548-58A

SEARCHED INDEXED
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC

DATE: 5/29/61

FROM : SA [redacted]

SUBJECT: [redacted]

aka [redacted]

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

*Added to
this Serial
only
ad*

On 5/29/61 [redacted] and [redacted] appeared at the Fayetteville, N.C. RA and both advised they would like to advise that they are both members of the Fayetteville ~~Chapter~~ Chapter of the John Birch Society. [redacted] advised he is the [redacted] and the Fayetteville Chapter was organized in February, 1961. He indicated the Fayetteville chapter is very active at the present time in carrying out some of the projects ~~of~~ of the society, such as writing ~~their~~ Their Congressman and Senators in an effort to get Supreme Court Justice EARL WARREN impeached, etc.

[redacted] Advised he and his wife are members of the society.

They advised their purpose of advising the FBI of this information was due to the fact that they wanted to go on record with the FBI that they are members and they would be happy to furnish any information to the FBI regarding their Chapter or Society. They advised they have met some opposition among their friends and acquaintances in Fayetteville who have condemned them for belonging to the ~~the~~ Society and they have been compared as belonging to an organization similar to the KuKlux Klan.

[redacted] resides at [redacted] and [redacted] resides at [redacted]

[redacted] Fayetteville.

LOTTE

[redacted] is [redacted] [redacted] is the

info

100-9540-59

SERIALIZED FILED

[redacted]

[redacted] had in his possession a copy of "the Blue Book" of the John Birch Society, which he made available to the writer to read, however, the writer tractifully ~~was~~ declined the offer. He said the Blue Book is the ^Manuel of the Society, which sets out the organizational structure, instructions for organizing, aims and purposes of the Society, etc.

[redacted] advised in the conversation there is a local Chapter of the Society at High Point, N.C. He did not name the places where other chapters were organized in N.C. but indicated there were also other chapters in N.C. in addition to the Fayetteville and High Point Chapters.

The writer was non-committal and thanked these two gentlemen for the courtesy of stopping by the office and furnishing this information.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

DATE: 6/2/61

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFO CONCERNING - INTERNAL SECURITY

On 5/29/61, [REDACTED]
Charlotte, N. C., telephone JA 3-6105, telephonically contacted
this office to obtain information pertaining to the John Birch
Society.

[REDACTED] was advised that information in the
files of the FBI is confidential and in the event she desired
to obtain a list of the listed subversive organizations she
could contact the U. S. Department of Justice, Internal
Security Division, Subversive Control Section, Washington, D. C.
She was advised that the writer was not implying that this
office either did or did not have info on the captioned organization.

RMB:mw
(2)

mw

100-9548-61

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
FILED <i>h</i>	
JUN 2 - 1961	
FBI - CHARLOTTE	

File

Q

DIRECTOR, FBI

6/2/61

SAC, CHARLOTTE (100-9548)

THE JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY
INFO CONCERNING - INTERNAL SECURITY

On 5/31/61, [redacted] advised SA [redacted] he received a letter dated May 29, 1961, from [redacted] aka. [redacted] and pertinent portions of the letter are as follows:

"Mr. ROBERT WELCH, founder of The John Birch Society, will be a guest of [redacted] and mine at an informal dinner at [redacted] on Monday evening, June 12th at 7 o'clock. [redacted] and I would be happy to have you attend this dinner as our guest.

"Mr. WELCH will speak to us on the world situation with respect to communism and will explain the methods and purposes of The John Birch Society. His speech, which will last for approximately two hours, will start about 8:30 P. M. Applications for membership in The John Birch Society will be available after Mr. WELCH's speech, but no implied obligation to join the Society will accompany your acceptance of this invitation. We expect to have present approximately fifty gentlemen, industrial, financial and educational leaders in the Piedmont Section of South Carolina"....

[redacted] stated he was confidentially furnishing foregoing information to this office, and he did not desire that his name be revealed to any agency outside the Bureau as the source of information in this matter.

Above submitted for information of Bureau.

2 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Charlotte
JAM:mnw
(3)

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INDEXED
FILED
JUN 5 1961
FBI - CHARLOTTE

100-9548-62

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

No Duplication Fees are charged for Deleted Page Information Sheet(s).

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 1
Page 32 ~ Duplicate